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*Plenary sitting*

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**B9-0465/2023**

21.11.2023

## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

with request for inclusion in the agenda for a debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

pursuant to Rule 144 of the Rules of Procedure

on the unlawful detention of President Mohamed Bazoum in Niger  
(2023/2980(RSP))

**Miguel Urbán Crespo**  
on behalf of The Left Group

**Motion for a European Parliament resolution on the unlawful detention of President Mohamed Bazoum in Niger (2023/2980(RSP))**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Rule 144 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas on July 26, Nigerien army officers of the self-proclaimed National Council for the Safeguard of the Homeland, staged a coup and arrested President Mohamed Bazoum and his family: whereas the Council announced the dissolution of the country's constitution and the suspension of state institutions;
- B. whereas several officials of the overthrown government and other political leaders have also been arbitrarily arrested;
- C. whereas Nigerien authorities have cracked down on critical media and peaceful dissent; whereas journalists have been subjected to threats, surveillance, online verbal harassment, physical attacks and arbitrary arrests;
- D. whereas the sanctions imposed against Niger, which include closing the borders, cutting off electricity supplies, and suspending commercial and financial transactions, financial assistance and development cooperation, are exacerbating the difficulties already faced by the civilian population; whereas Niger was already facing a humanitarian crisis before the coup, with about 17% of the population, in need of humanitarian assistance;
- 1. Strongly condemns the coup d'état, the dissolution of the constitution and suspension of state institutions; demands a rapid transition to democratic civilian rule and uphold the right of all Nigeriens to elect their leaders; is strongly concerned about the installation in the region of military juntas and their disrespect for human rights and public freedoms;
- 2. Calls for the immediate and unconditional release of the President Mohamed Bazoum, their relatives, and all those arbitrarily detained;
- 3. Considers that the crisis can only be resolved by the opening of political negotiations for a rapid return to constitutional order, involving all forces in the country;
- 4. Calls to allow the full exercise of freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly, association and the media, as well as the right to participate in public affairs, including by ceasing the harassment of critical media, journalists and peaceful dissents;
- 5. Calls for the immediate lifting of all sanctions that punish the population without affecting the coup plotters;
- 6. Affirms that any military intervention in Niger could have catastrophic humanitarian and regional consequences; calls in this regard on the EU and its Member States not to promote or support such plans;

7. Notes the growing rejection of the former colonial power and of European diplomacy on the continent without ignoring attempts to manipulate information by third parties; insists that the only way to regain the confidence of citizens is to replace relations of domination at military, economic, monetary and political level with relations of equals, respecting international law and the principles of non-interference in internal affairs; supports in this regard, the withdrawal of the French troops from the country;
8. Affirms the need for the European Union to carry out an evaluation of the impact of the G5 Sahel and to build a new framework for relations with the Sahel countries; demands that collaboration with this region should not be subordinated to the economic interests of multinationals;
9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the EU institutions, Member States and the Niger authorities.