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*Plenary sitting*

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**B9-0473/2023**

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))

**Anna Fotyga, Karol Karski, Angel Dzhambazki, Ryszard Czarnecki,  
Elżbieta Kruk, Adam Bielan, Joachim Stanisław Brudziński, Andżelika  
Anna Możdżanowska, Witold Jan Waszczykowski, Assita Kanko, Bogdan  
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Fidanza**

on behalf of the ECR 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 its previous resolutions on Niger,
  - having regard to the Constitution of the Republic of Niger,
  - having regard to the Cotonou Agreement,
  - having regard to Rule 144 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the EU has long standing relations with Niger and has supported Niger economically, politically and militarily, including via a deployed CSDP mission since 2012;
- B. whereas President Mohamed Bazoum was democratically elected and whereas his detention after a military coup is illegal and undermines and violates the constitutional order;
- C. whereas this is the sixth coup d'état in West Africa since 2020 damaging the fundamental basis of democracy and the rule of law as well as the security in the region, that faces an increment of the destructive presence of Russia in the region and further expansion of extremism and terrorism;
- D. whereas the junta's order to expel the UN coordinator will hinder the ability of the UN to fulfil its mandate and disrupt essential work in Niger where 5 million people need humanitarian aid, mainly women and children, thus increasing pressure on migration;
- E. whereas the stability of the Sahel is crucial for the security and prosperity of the people of the Sahel as well as for Europe;
1. Condemns the unlawful detention of President Bazoum and his family and of other persons following the military takeover, expresses deep concern at the continuing and worrying deterioration of their detention conditions and calls for their immediate and unconditional release; stands with the Nigerien people in their aspirations for democracy, prosperity and stability;
  2. Calls on the EU to cooperate with the United States, the UN, the African Union, ECOWAS and other likeminded international partners to restore the democratically elected authorities and the return of constitutional order in Niger;
  3. Calls on the Nigerien authorities to restore the constitutional order in a quick and credible timeframe and to uphold human rights, including the freedom of expression, to end arbitrary

detentions and to respect media freedom;

4. Condemns Russia's destructive engagement in the Sahel, including via using the terrorist Wagner Group to support undemocratic regimes and military coups d'état; is concerned by the size of Russian propaganda spread through various channels that circulate anti-European narratives;
5. Asks the HR/VP and the Commission to present as soon as possible options for adapting the EU action and instruments to the current situation in the Sahel region;
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the VP/HR, the African Union, ECOWAS and the authorities of Niger.