



Plenary sitting

B9-0070/2024

16.1.2024

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 ongoing persecution of Falun Gong in China, notably the case of Mr Ding Yuande
(2024/2504(RSP))

Pedro Marques, Isabel Santos
on behalf of the S&D Group

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on the ongoing persecution of Falun Gong in China, notably the case of Mr Ding Yuande (2024/2504(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on the PRC,
- having regard to Rule 144 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. Whereas Article 36 of PRC's constitution guarantees freedom of religious belief; whereas PRC keeps violating the right to freedom of religion and intensifying the restrictions affecting the religious communities resulting in an overall and deeply worrying increase of religious persecution notably against Uyghurs, Tibetan people and Falun Gong practitioners; whereas technology-based censorship and surveillance are central to religious repression in China;
- B. Whereas the Chinese Communist Party has in vain attempted since 1999 to eradicate this spiritual group, with millions of people in PRC continuing to practice Falun Gong; Whereas Falun Gong practitioners are subject to widespread surveillance, extortion, arbitrary and labour detention, imprisonment and torture;
- C. Whereas Ding Yuande was taken into custody on May 12 2023, based on his practice of Falun Gong, as part of a province-wide mass arrest of roughly 70 practitioners; whereas on December 15, 2023, Ding Yuande was fined and sentenced to three years in prison;
- 1. Strongly condemns the persistent persecution against all minorities in PRC including religious minorities such as the Falun Gong practitioners and the Uyghurs in clear breach of the PRC Constitution and the international Conventions; denounces the Chinese Communist Party's nationwide campaign since 1999 to eliminate Falun Gong; calls for the end of the surveillance and the deployment of technology to suppress religious freedom inside and outside the country;
- 2. Calls for the immediate release of Mr Ding Yuande and all Falun Gong practitioners detained in jails on unfounded and unsubstantiated charges;
- 3. Reiterates its grave concerns about the reports of inhumane and state-sanctioned organ harvesting from prisoners in the PRC, and, more specifically, from Falun Gong practitioners as well as other minorities;
- 4. Calls the Embassies of the Member States and the EU Delegation in PRC to monitor the trials and offer assistance to the Falun Gong practitioners, to visit them in jail and to publicly denounce the torture and other high-pressure methods used to force practitioners to renounce their beliefs;

5. Urges the EU and its Member States to raise the persecution of religious minorities, and notably the Uyghurs and the Falun Gong practitioners at every political and human rights dialogues with the Chinese authorities;
6. Calls the Member States to consider targeted EU sanctions against individuals and companies participating in the persecution against Falun Gong practitioners, including denial of visas, freezing of assets, criminal prosecution, or international criminal charges;
7. Invites the Members States and their jurisdictions, where applicable, to implement the concept of extraterritorial jurisdiction against Chinese officials responsible for the persecution of religious minorities;
8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the EU institutions, the Member States and to the Government and Parliament of the PRC.