

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

6 October 1999

B5-0147/99 }
B5-0151/99 }
B5-0166/99 }
B5-0174/99 }RC1

JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure

by the following Members:

Pack, Oostlander and Grossetête, on behalf of the PPE Group
Schori, on behalf of the PSE Group
Baroness Ludford and Haarder, on behalf of the ELDR Group
Staes, Cohn-Bendit, Schröder and Langendijk, on behalf of the V/ALE Group

replacing the motions by the following Groups:

- ELDR (B5-0147/99)
- PSE (B5-0151/99)
- V/ALE (B5-0166/99)
- PPE (B5-0174/99)

on abuses against Roma and other minorities in the new Kosovo

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on the situation in Kosovo and the former Yugoslavia,
- having regard to the military technical agreement between the international security force (KFOR) and the Government of Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Serbia, agreed on 9 June 1999,
- having regard to the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe signed by the Council on 10 June 1999,
- having regard to the UNHCR/OSCE Assessment of the situation of ethnic minorities in Kosovo of 6 September,

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PE 281.621/RC1
281.625/RC1
281.640/RC1
281.648/RC1
Or.pa

- having regard to the report of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Kosovo of 7 September 1999,
- A. Noting with great concern that a large part of the Roma population in Kosovo are, or have been, the victim of serious human rights violations since the end of the Kosovo conflict, being accused of ‘complicity’ with the Serb forces during the conflict,
- B. Noting that as a consequence of these acts and threats of violence since the middle of June more than half of Kosovo’s 12 000–15 000 estimated Roma population has fled Kosovo,
- C. Noting the continuing persecution of Romani civilians and other ethnic minorities, amongst which the Serbs, in Kosovo, and being aware that the international security forces inside Kosovo are making an effort to give protection to the Roma and other ethnic minorities in Kosovo, but that this is not sufficient at this moment to offer security for the ethnic minorities in Kosovo,
- D. Noting that Kosovo’s minorities have moved to Roma or Serb enclaves under KFOR protection within Kosovo,
- E. Stressing that serious problems exist for the Roma people in most of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and for that reason they merit a special approach,
- 1. Calls on the KFOR to give adequate response to criminal activity against Romani citizens in Kosovo and to increase their efforts in the sector where they are assigned, to protect the civilians of the ethnic minorities;
- 2. Calls on the leaders of the Albanian community in Kosovo to take responsibility for preventing continued harassment and violence against the Roma in Kosovo;
- 3. Calls on all parties to cooperate fully with KFOR in the implementation of UNSCR 1244 (1999) and therefore to cease all ethnic violence from whatever quarter and to work towards reconciliation between all sections of society;
- 4. Urges the UN Council to apply the necessary pressure, so that KFOR makes full implementation of its mandate to disarm all the military and paramilitary groups;
- 5. Calls on the UN as well as on the UNMIK to give KFOR troops in Kosovo effective empowerment to protect the civilian population from racist acts and other criminal acts perpetrated by paramilitary troops;
- 6. Urges the UNHCR, the KFOR and the UNMIK to oppose and refuse any contingency plan or cantonization;
- 7. Invites the United Nations, NATO, the OSCE and the UE to accelerate the process of creating a Kosovar police force representing all parts of the civilian society;
- 8. Recognises the urgent need to bring to justice any perpetrator of atrocities from whatever quarter they come, in order to rebuild in the region the common sense of rule of law, respect of cultural, ethnic diversity and human rights and, thereby, to establish the basis for interethnic reconciliation;

9. Regrets that the prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) is mandated only to investigate crimes committed during the armed conflict in Kosovo;
10. Insists that the UNMK, responsible for the investigation and prosecution of offences through the UN international police assisted by KFOR, keep the ICTY regularly informed about the nature and status of investigations being conducted in Kosovo;
11. Calls on the Council, the Commission and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development to give priority in the allocation of reconstruction aid to those municipalities that protect and prevent violence and discrimination against ethnic minorities and persons due to their political affiliation;
12. Calls on the Commission and the Council to offer specific support for programmes facilitating a dialogue between representatives of the Albanian majority in Kosovo and representatives of minority groups, such as the Roma, as well as to other confidence-building measures;
13. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the UN and the UN Interim Civil Administration in Kosovo, OSCE, NATO and to the Secretary General's Deputy Special Representative for Humanitarian Affairs in Kosovo.