

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

17 November 1999

B5-0290/1999 }
B5-0291/1999 }
B5-0295/1999 }
B5-0302/1999 }

}RC1

JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure

by the following Members:

Oostlander and Bethell, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group
Krehl, on behalf of the PSE Group
Haarder, on behalf of the ELDR Group
Schroedter, Wuori, Hautala and Ahern, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group
Puerta and Frahm, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

replacing the motions by the following groups:

- GUE/NGL (B5-0290/1999)
- ELDR (B5-0291/1999)
- Verts/ALE (B5-0295/1999)
- PPE-DE (B5-0302/1999)

on the forthcoming trial of Alexandr Nikitin

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its resolutions of 16 November 1995¹, 15 February 1996² and 18 September 1996³ on the harassment of the Bellona Foundation, the arrest of Alexandr Nikitin and the case of Alexandr Nikitin respectively,

¹ OJ C 323, 4.12.1995, p. 112.

² OJ C 65, 4.3.1996, p. 162.

³ OJ C 320, 28.10.1996, p. 196.

- having regard to the European Convention on Human Rights and the Russian Constitution, particularly Articles 15(3), 54 and 123(3) thereof,
- A. expressing its satisfaction that the case of Alexandr Nikitin is being tried by a civilian judge at the St Petersburg City Court,
- B. understanding the importance of this case to the development of the rule of law in the new democratic Russia,
- C. whereas Mr Nikitin is still required not to leave the city,
- D. whereas Mr Nikitin is, for the eighth time, being charged with treason; whereas the new indictment has not been made available to him before the trial,
- E. whereas, on 26 July 1999, Mr Nikitin appealed to the European Court of Human Rights to remedy the violations of his rights under the European Convention on Human Rights,
- 1. Asks the Russian authorities to guarantee Alexandr Nikitin an impartial and public trial based on the principles of the European Convention on Human Rights and the Russian Constitution;
- 2. Urges the Russian authorities to give Alexandr Nikitin full access to the indictment and to the legal foundation of the charges against him;
- 3. Calls on the Russian authorities to dismiss the charges against Alexandr Nikitin based on secret retroactive decrees;
- 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the Government of Russia, the Council of Europe and the Bellona Foundation.