

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

Session document

13 December 2000

B5-0905/2000 }
B5-0918/2000 }
B5-0933/2000 }
B5-0936/2000 }
B5-0937/2000 }
RC1

JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 50(5) of the Rules of Procedure by

- Vitaliano Gemelli, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group
- Pasqualina Napolitano, Martine Roure, Margrietus J. van den Berg and Harlem Désir, on behalf of the PSE Group
- Cecilia Malmström, on behalf of the ELDR Group
- Hélène Flautre and Daniel Marc Cohn-Bendit, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group
- Yasmine Boudjenah, Marianne Eriksson, Joaquim Miranda and Fodé Sylla, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group
- Olivier Dupuis, Emma Bonino, Marco Pannella, Maurizio Turco, Gianfranco Dell'Alba, Benedetto Della Vedova and Marco Cappato

replacing the motions by the following groups:

- GUE/NGL (B5-0905/2000),
- PSE (B5-0918/2000),
- ELDR (B5-0933/2000),
- PPE-DE (B5-0936/2000),
- Verts/ALE (B5-0937/2000),

on Tunisia

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European Parliament resolution on Tunisia

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions, and in particular that of 15 June 2000, on the situation in Tunisia,
- A. whereas the EU-Tunisia Association Agreement lays down the promotion of human rights as a key element and, in that spirit, introduces a political dialogue; regrets the fact that this frank and open dialogue has not sufficed to encourage the Tunisian authorities to advance along the path of democracy and human rights, to which they have formally committed themselves,
- B. whereas the recent speech by President Ben Ali, which he gave in connection with the celebration of the 13th anniversary of the change of 7 November 1987, took the line of outlining the path to be followed and the steps to be taken to ensure the progress of the democratic and pluralist process in Tunisia, which has not progressed at the same speed as economic reforms,
- C. having regard to the recent measures resulting in restrictions on the operation of the Tunisian League for Human Rights (LTDH), which has long been established in the country, the proceedings instigated against Mr Marzouki, the restrictions placed on the activities of the CNLT and the very worrying situation of the prisoners of conscience who are on hunger strike,
- D. concerned about the human rights situation, in particular with regard to freedom of expression and freedom of association for members of human rights organisations or of the democratic political opposition,
- E. drawing the attention of the Tunisian authorities to the harmful consequences of the continued existence of such situations, which restrict the freedom of action of organisations campaigning for respect for human rights and for democratic progress in Tunisia,
 1. Calls on the Tunisian authorities immediately to cease all forms of harassment and repression of associations campaigning for the rule of law in Tunisia, and in particular the LTDH, the CNLT and their representatives;
 2. Expresses its concern about the state of health of many prisoners in Tunisia who have embarked on a hunger strike;
 3. Calls on the Council and the Commission, who have frequently advocated constructive dialogue with Tunisia, to use all the means provided for by the Association Agreement between the European Union and Tunisia to secure respect for democratic freedoms and human rights;
 4. Calls for the next meeting of the EU-Tunisia Association Council, which is scheduled for February 2001, to examine, in particular, the human rights situation in Tunisia and the

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restrictions placed on the activities of independent associations, in the context of the MEDA-DEMOCRACY programme;

5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, and the Government and Parliament of Tunisia.