

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

Session document

17 January 2001

B5-0055/2001 }
B5-0057/2001 }
B5-0063/2001 }
B5-0070/2001 }
B5-0075/2001 }
B5-0080/2001 }
RC1

JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

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

- Charles Tannock and Bernd Posselt, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group
- Christa Randzio-Plath, Margrietus J. van den Berg, Richard Graham Corbett and Ulpu Iivari, on behalf of the PSE Group
- Jules Maaten, on behalf of the ELDR Group
- Heidi Anneli Hautala, Nelly Maes and Patricia McKenna, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group
- Luigi Vinci, Herman Schmid and Lucio Manisco, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group
- Bastiaan Belder, on behalf of the EDD Group

replacing the motions by the following groups:

- EDD (B5-0055/2001),
- ELDR (B5-0057/2001),
- Verts/ALE (B5-0063/2001),
- PPE-DE (B5-0070/2001),
- PSE (B5-0075/2001),
- GUE/NGL (B5-0080/2001),

on the trial of Khmer Rouge members in Cambodia

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PE 299.437}
PE 299.439}
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European Parliament resolution on the trial of Khmer Rouge members in Cambodia

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to the need to try all those leaders of Democratic Kampuchea who are responsible for the deaths of some 2 million Cambodians under the 1975–1979 'killing fields' regime,
 - B. having regard to the agreement adopted in July 2000 between the UNO and the Cambodian government for the purpose of setting up a special Tribunal composed of Cambodian and foreign judges to try those responsible for Cambodian deaths between 1975 and 1979,
 - C. convinced that the democratic process in Cambodia, the stability of the new institutions and the rehabilitation of civil society can only become a reality if those responsible for this genocide are obliged to face a court,
 - D. having regard to the amnesty law exonerating from their crimes all Khmer Rouge members who rallied to the regime,
 - E. whereas those chiefly responsible continue to live out an untroubled life in the country in regions bordering on Thailand,
 - F. whereas only two such persons are today in prison, Ta Mok, who had supplanted Pol Pot within the Khmer Rouge movement in 1997 by having him sentenced to life imprisonment, before being captured in March 1999, and Kang Kek Leu, former director of the Tuol Sleng torture centre,
1. Commemorates with profound sadness the victims of the horrifying genocide that engulfed Cambodia;
 2. Welcomes the fact that on Tuesday, 2 January 2001 the National Assembly of Cambodia, followed on 15 January 2001 by the Senate, passed unanimously a draft law on the Khmer Rouge trial;
 3. Welcomes the fact that the Tribunal to be held in Phnom Penh will include both Cambodian and foreign judges and prosecutors, and will focus on crimes committed by Khmer Rouge leaders from April 1975 to January 1979;
 4. Invites the Constitutional Council to approve this draft law as quickly as possible before it is signed into law by King Sihanouk;
 5. Hopes that the trials will begin as soon as possible, and not later than the end of the year; hopes also that they will not be confined to the two individuals responsible currently imprisoned;

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6. Invites the Cambodian government, once the law is passed, to meet again with UN officials to sign a cooperation agreement and start the trial process;
7. Recalls that the transparency and impartiality of the judicial system as well as international judicial cooperation and respect for democratic principles are essential elements for the renewal of EU/Cambodia relations;
8. Welcomes the end to the culture of impunity from which dictatorial regimes guilty of violating human rights have too often benefited;
9. Draws attention to the extensive EU assistance to Cambodia, amounting to nearly US\$786 million between 1992 and 1998, and including 67.1 million euro for the European Programme for the Rehabilitation of Cambodia;
10. Instructs its President to forward the present resolution to the Council, the Commission, the UN and ASEAN, and to the Government and Parliament of Cambodia.