

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

*Session document*

14 March 2001

B5-0186/2001 }  
B5-0206/2001 }  
B5-0216/2001 }  
B5-0225/2001 }  
RC1

## JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

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

- José Pacheco Pereira and Vasco Graça Moura on behalf of the PPE-DE Group
- Mário Soares, António José Seguro and Maria Carrilho on behalf of the PSE Group
- Cecilia Malmström on behalf of the ELDR Group
- Nelly Maes on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group
- Joaquim Miranda on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group
- Luis Queiro and José Ribeiro e Castro on behalf of the UEN Group

replacing the motions by the following groups:

- PSE (B5-0186/2001),
- Verts/ALE (B5-0206/2001),
- GUE/NGL (B5-0216/2001),
- PPE-DE (B5-0225/2001),

on the kidnapping of Portuguese citizens in Cabinda

RC\434972EN.doc

PE 301.350}  
PE 301.370}  
PE 303.009}  
PE 303.018} RC1

## European Parliament resolution on the kidnapping of Portuguese citizens in Cabinda

*The European Parliament,*

- A. whereas on 24 May 2000 the Portuguese citizens Sérgio Alves Fidalgo, Manuel da Mota Nunes and Marco da Costa Santos were kidnapped in Cabinda (Angola) by the Cabinda Enclave Liberation Front (FLEC),
  - B. whereas 9 March 2001 saw the disappearance of a further five Portuguese citizens (David Jesus Monteiro, Adriano Moreira Dias, Augusto da Nova, Gabriel Faria Pinto and Augusto Pires) who, according to the information currently available, have been kidnapped by the group known as FLEC-Renovada,
  - C. whereas the individuals in question went to Cabinda in order to work and have no connection whatsoever with the on-going political conflict in Angola,
  - D. whereas nine months have now gone by since the first kidnapping and whereas all the individuals concerned are being held hostage in order to put pressure on the Angolan Government, on Portugal and on the international community in general,
  - E. concerned at the captivity of the Portuguese citizens in question (three of whom have been prisoners for nine months), which must be having a serious effect on their state of physical and mental health,
  - F. whereas this constitutes a clear violation of human rights which no political demand can justify and which involves citizens of the European Union,
  - G. whereas the European Union attaches fundamental importance to the principle of respect for human rights and whereas, on account of its humanitarian significance, the release of the Portuguese hostages will certainly constitute a gesture which will be welcomed by the international community,
- 1. Calls for the immediate and unconditional release of the Portuguese citizens who are being held hostage;
  - 2. Condemns the taking of hostages as a form of political action;
  - 3. Urges governments, international organisations and non-governmental organisations to cooperate in the initiatives which have been going on since the first kidnapping and to do all in their power to secure the release of the hostages by putting pressure on the kidnappers (who behave with impunity in their countries) in order to make them understand that acts of kidnapping and hostage-taking involving foreign citizens who have nothing whatsoever to do with local military and political conflicts are unacceptable as a means of exerting political pressure in order to seek satisfaction of whatever demands they are pursuing;

4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Governments and Parliaments of the Member States, the Government and the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Angola, the UN and the leaders of the Cabinda Enclave Liberation Front (FLEC) and of FLEC-Renovada.