

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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*Session document*

3 July 2002

B5-0411/2002 }  
B5-0412/2002 }  
B5-0416/2002 }  
B5-0422/2002 }  
B5-0431/2002 }

RC1

## JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

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

- Jorge Salvador Hernández Mollar and Hugues Martin, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group
- Michael Cashman, Anna Karamanou, Margrietus J. van den Berg and Joke Swiebel, on behalf of the PSE Group
- Lousewies van der Laan and Cecilia Malmström, on behalf of the ELDR Group
- Kathalijne Maria Buitenweg, Alima Boumediene-Thiery, Yves Piétrasanta and Matti Wuori, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group
- Luigi Vinci, Marianne Eriksson, Feleknas Uca and Armando Cossutta, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group
- Marco Cappato

replacing the motions by the following groups:

- Verts/ALE (B5-0411/2002),
- PPE-DE (B5-0412/2002),
- ELDR (B5-0416/2002),
- PSE (B5-0422/2002),
- GUE/NGL (B5-0431/2002),

on human rights violations in Egypt

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PE 319.847}  
PE 319.848}  
PE 319.852}  
PE 319.858}  
PE 319.867} RC1

## European Parliament resolution on human rights violations in Egypt

### *The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948,
  - having regard to Article 11(1) of the Treaty on European Union and Article 177 of the EC Treaty, which establish the promotion of human rights as an objective of the common foreign and security policy,
  - having regard to Article 2 of the EU-Egypt Euro-Mediterranean Agreement, now open for ratification by the parties,
  - having regard to its previous resolutions on human rights in Egypt, particularly that of 14 June 2001, and to its resolution of 29 November 2001 on the conclusion of the aforementioned Agreement, particularly paragraph 6 thereof, which ‘calls upon the authorities to free the 23 men given custodial sentences [on grounds relating to their homosexuality] as a matter of urgency’,
  - having regard to Egyptian law, which does not penalise homosexuality as a criminal offence,
- A. whereas a new trial will begin on July 2, 2002 for 50 of the 52 men arrested at a Cairo gay night-club on a Nile riverboat last year,
- B. whereas 23 of them were sentenced in November 2001 to jail terms ranging from one to five years on charges of debauchery, two of them, who were accused of being ringleaders, were convicted of crimes of contempt for religion and given longer sentences and 29 were found not guilty,
1. Calls on the Egyptian authorities to call a halt to all prosecution of citizens on grounds of homosexuality and to protect their individual freedoms;
  2. Stresses that freedom of information, speech and association are fundamental aspects of developing and deepening democracy;
  3. Expresses its concern, reiterates that the 52 men should be afforded universal human rights – namely: the right to a fair trial; the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; the right to freedom from torture and cruel or inhuman treatment; the right to privacy; the right to equality before the law –, and reaffirms Article 14.7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which states that ‘no one should be liable to be tried or punished again for an offence for which he has already been finally convicted or acquitted in accordance with the law and penal procedure of each country’;
  4. Underlines the fact that Article 2 of the Association Agreement includes a clause demanding that human rights and democratic principles be respected, but believes that much more effort

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PE 319.847}  
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and attention is needed to ensure that these are upheld in practice;

5. Stresses that particular attention must be paid to prohibiting discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation;
6. Asks the Commission and the Council to express serious concern to the Egyptian authorities regarding the retrial of 52 Egyptian citizens on grounds of their sexual orientation, and to follow closely developments during the retrial set to commence on 2 July;
7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the Member countries of the UN Human Rights Commission and the Government of Egypt.