

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Session document

14 May 2003

B5-0233/2003 }
B5-0234/2003 }
B5-0235/2003 }
B5-0236/2003 }
B5-0237/2003 }

RC1

JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 37(4) of the Rules of Procedure by

- Arie M. Oostlander, Ilkka Suominen and Giles Bryan Chichester on behalf of the PPE-DE Group
- Reino Paasilinna, Catherine Lalumière and Jannis Sakellariou on behalf of the PSE Group
- Paavo Väyrynen on behalf of the ELDR Group
- Helmuth Markov on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group
- Charles Pasqua, Cristiana Muscardini, Luís Queiró and José Ribeiro e Castro on behalf of the UEN Group

replacing the motions by the following groups:

- PPE-DE (B5-0233/2003),
- UEN (B5-0234/2003),
- GUE/NGL (B5-0235/2003),
- PSE (B5-0236/2003),
- ELDR (B5-0237/2003),

on the EU-Russia summit

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European Parliament resolution on the EU-Russia summit

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Russia,
 - having regard to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the EU and Russia which entered into force on 1 December 1997,
 - having regard to the Common Strategy of the EU on Russia dating from June 1999 and valid for a period of four years,
 - having regard to its resolutions of 10 April 2002 and 16 January 2003 on Chechnya,
 - having regard to its resolution of 21 November 2002 on the outcome of the EU-Russia summit of 11 November 2002,
 - having regard to the Commission Communication on ‘Wider Europe – Neighbourhood’ of 11 March 2003,
 - having regard to the sixth meeting of the Cooperation Council between the EU and Russia on 15 April 2003,
 - having regard to the 2003 tercentenary celebrations in St Petersburg and the EU's representation,
- A. whereas enhanced and comprehensive cooperation with Russia is of strategic importance for the achievement of stability and security for the whole of Europe,
- B. whereas enlargement will lengthen the border of the EU with Russia, thereby strengthening the ties between the two sides and underlining the need for good-neighbourly relations,
- C. whereas relations between the EU and Russia, especially in the political field, have made ample use of the opportunities created by the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA),
- D. whereas in the field of economic cooperation neither the EU nor Russia has fully realised the potential of the PCA,
- E. whereas the predominance of selective cooperation and the absence of a comprehensive and long-term concept of bilateral relations has to be seen as one of the major obstacles for the EU and Russia in working out an effective and dynamic partnership,

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- F. whereas further development of the democratic process in Russia and Russia's integration in more comprehensive security structures constitute interrelated processes,
- G. whereas further developments are needed in order to support the democratic process in Russia with regard, in particular, to freedom of information and the media,
- H. whereas the EU Council has recognised the Russian Federation as a market economy,
- I. whereas its ad hoc delegation will visit Chechnya in the near future,
1. Expresses its conviction that, in view of the widening and deepening of European integration, the EU and Russia should make better use of the possibilities provided for by the PCA;
 2. Calls upon the Commission to formulate a strategic partnership with Russia aimed at bridging the growing gap between a unifying Europe and Russia;
 3. Calls upon the Council and the Commission to prepare for a new stage of the evolving EU-Russia relationship by expanding the regular EU-Russia summit meetings and by establishing closer links between the two sides;
 4. Welcomes the continuous strengthening of cooperation between the EU and Russia in international affairs; in this context welcomes the fact that the EU and Russia are parties to the December 2002 roadmap for the Middle East, and calls for it to be implemented rapidly and without modification;
 5. Calls upon both sides to intensify their cooperation in the field of ESDP and to make Russia with its advanced military technologies and highly trained peace-keeping units one of the vital security partners of the EU;
 6. Welcomes the progress made by the High Level Group mandated to elaborate the concept of the Common European Economic Space (CEES) and stresses the need to finalise the CEES concept by the summit of November 2003;
 7. Considers that the momentum should be maintained for a timely entry of Russia into the WTO, and that this will provide new opportunities for expansion of trade between the two parties, and supports the Commission's position that any examination of a possible Free Trade Area with Russia should not take place before Russia has joined the WTO;
 8. Calls upon both sides to promote the use of the Euro in business transactions between the EU and Russia;
 9. Calls upon both sides to adopt special programmes aimed at promoting their cooperation in high-tech and science-incentive spheres, including the aircraft building industry, space exploration, nuclear energy, telecommunications and the pan-European transport system;

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10. Welcomes the opening in November 2002 of the Moscow EU-Russia Technology Centre, with a view to promoting energy technology cooperation, as a concrete means of fostering the indispensable on-going energy dialogue, which it believes to be a matter of long-term common interest;
11. Recalls how important it is for Russia to ratify the Energy Charter Treaty and for the transit protocol negotiations to be completed at an early date;
12. Welcomes Russia's participation in the 6th Framework Programme, particularly in the field of space, and underlines the importance of future cooperation in aerospace through Galileo;
13. Points out once again its concerns over the situation of first generation nuclear reactors in Russia and other CIS countries, and recalls the pressing need to tackle bilaterally all relevant nuclear safety issues through cooperation and dialogue;
14. Welcomes the agreement reached between the EU and Russia to enhance their cooperation on maritime safety in the framework of the International Maritime Organisation with the objective of preventing maritime accidents and consequent pollution, notably with regard to the accelerated phasing-out of single hull vessels as well as the banning of the transportation of heavy grades of oil in single hull vessels;
15. Asks the EU-Russia summit to take more account of the 2004-2006 action plan for the northern dimension; asks Russia to play an active part in carrying out this action plan;
16. Supports the strengthening of overall cross-border cooperation along the borders of the enlarged European Union with Russia;
17. Welcomes the adoption by the Council of the necessary legislation regarding the Facilitated Transit Document (FTD) and the Facilitated Rail Transit Document (FRTD) for Kaliningrad, stresses the importance of rapid ratification of Russia's border agreements with the Baltic States and recalls that the whole scheme must be in place by 1 July 2003;
18. Stresses the importance of continuing efforts to implement the Action Plan for the fight against organised crime and insists that a much higher level of cooperation should be attained in this field as well as in the fight against terrorism, money laundering, trafficking in human beings and arms and drug smuggling;
19. Calls on the Duma to ratify the Kyoto agreement swiftly and adopt all the measures necessary for its implementation;
20. Expresses its deep concern at the management of nuclear waste in the Barents Sea; welcomes, in this respect, the decision of the Russian Government to overcome the

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remaining obstacles and sign the Multilateral Environmental Programme for the Russian Federation (MNEPR) and looks forward to stepping up cooperation in the field of the environment;

21. Asks its ad hoc delegation to Chechnya to report back to plenary after its visit to Chechnya on 14-17 June 2003;
22. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the President and State Duma of the Russian Federation.