

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Session document

21.2.2005

B6-0095/2005 }
B6-0100/2005 }
B6-0101/2005 }
B6-0108/2005 }
B6-0114/2005 }
B6-0117/2005 } RC1

JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 103(4) of the Rules of Procedure, by

- João de Deus Pinheiro, José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra and Tokia Saïfi, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group
- Pasqualina Napoletano and Carlos Carnero González, on behalf of the PSE Group
- Philippe Morillon and Emma Bonino, on behalf of the ALDE Group
- Hélène Flautre, Raül Romeva i Rueda, David Hammerstein Mintz and Daniel Marc Cohn-Bendit, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group
- Luisa Morgantini and Adamos Adamou, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group
- Adriana Poli Bortone and Sebastiano (Nello) Musumeci, on behalf of the UEN Group

replacing the motions by the following groups:

- PSE (B6-0095/2005)
- GUE/NGL (B6-0100/2005)
- Verts/ALE (B6-0101/2005)
- UEN (B6-0108/2005)
- PPE-DE (B6-0114/2005)
- ALDE (B6-0117/2005)

on the Euro-Mediterranean partnership

RC\557362EN.doc

PE 354.218v01-00}
PE 354.223v01-00}
PE 354.224v01-00}
PE 354.231v01-00}
PE 354.237v01-00}
PE 354.240v01-00} RC1

EN

EN

European Parliament resolution on the Euro-Mediterranean partnership

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership,
 - having regard to the Barcelona Declaration of November 1995 and its work programme,
 - having regard to the conclusions of the ten Euro-Mediterranean Foreign Ministers' meetings.
 - having regard to the creation of the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly (EMPA),
 - having regard to the Commission communication on 'Reinvigorating EU actions on human rights and democratisation with Mediterranean partners',
 - having regard to the conclusions of the Civil forums organised in parallel with those ministerial meetings,
 - having regard to Rule 103(4) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the Barcelona process, over the last ten years, has provided a framework for a partnership between the countries and peoples of the two shores of the Mediterranean,
- B. having regard to the strategic importance of the Mediterranean for the EU, in the light of the need for a Mediterranean policy based on solidarity in order to act on the multiple shared challenges of peace, stability, terrorism and security, mutual understanding, the fight against trafficking in people (including clandestine and illegal immigration), and the objective of creating a shared area of prosperity,
- C. whereas the Barcelona Declaration commits the participating countries to establishing a regular dialogue on political, economic and social subjects and in the field of human rights,
- D. whereas the EU has defined a new European Neighbourhood Policy aimed at enhancing such partnership, giving a further opportunity to deepen relations, strengthening the political dialogue, integrating partner countries in EU policies and projecting peace, stability and democracy in neighbouring countries,
- E. whereas the first Action Plans with Morocco, Tunisia, Jordan, Israel and the Palestinian National Authority adopted by the Council commit the Union and partner countries to a closer and all-encompassing dialogue and must keep a coherent and common regional approach,
- F. stressing that the resumption of dialogue between the parties to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict provides a window of opportunity towards a comprehensive and lasting settlement which is bound to boost the whole Euromed process,

RC\557362EN.doc

PE 354.218v01-00}
PE 354.223v01-00}
PE 354.224v01-00}
PE 354.231v01-00}
PE 354.237v01-00}
PE 354.240v01-00} RC1

- G. whereas on 19 October 2004 the Commission and Syria formally signalled the end of the negotiations for an EU-Syria Association Agreement, thus concluding the phase of bilateral agreements provided for in the Euro-Mediterranean partnership,
- H. taking note of the Council Common Position of 14 October 2004 lifting the restrictive measures and the arms embargo against Libya, which paves the way for the full involvement of that country in the Barcelona process,
- I. whereas the transformation of the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Forum into the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly (EMPA) with its three relevant committees strengthens the parliamentary dimension of the Euromed process, thus enhancing its democratic accountability; whereas the creation of this new body should enhance the overall dialogue between the two regions,
- J. appalled by the assassination of Rafik Hariri and concerned by the situation created in Lebanon by this criminal act,
- K. concerned by the waiver of parliamentary immunity and detention of Ayman Nour, President of the Ghad Party in Egypt,
1. Welcomes the decision of the ministers that 2005 is the Year of the Mediterranean, and calls on the Council and Commission to make a renewed effort to enhance democracy and contribute and promote the necessary political, economic and social reforms in the Mediterranean countries;
 2. Considers that the political dialogue envisaged has not yet led to tangible results throughout the region; considers that the human rights aspect of the Barcelona process has, unfortunately, not been developed sufficiently while the situation in numerous countries shows no sign of improvement; deplores the failure to comply with the human rights clause in the Euro-Mediterranean agreements; reiterates its call on the Commission to draw up a public annual report on human rights in the Mediterranean countries, as a basis for further developing the partnership;
 3. Calls on all the countries of the region to work in close cooperation in order to face the growing challenge of immigration in a spirit of shared responsibility;
 4. Calls on the Commission to design the new 'neighbourhood' financial instrument on a basis of transparency, in cooperation with the partner countries and with the involvement of the EP and the EMPA, so as to make it truly capable of giving an impetus to development and the encouragement of investment;
 5. Welcomes the creation of the Euromed Non-Governmental Platform for the Civil Forum, which will hold its constituent meeting in April in Luxembourg; stresses, in this respect, the importance of developing close cooperation with this platform by inviting its members regularly to present their views within the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly;

6. Calls on the Commission to involve it in the assessment of the implementation of action plans;
7. Is of the opinion that the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) must play a crucial role in the promotion of the EU's founding values in the Barcelona process and urges the Commission to assume its responsibilities and ensure compliance with the human rights clause in the agreements;
8. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to promote women's rights when implementing their financial and technical assistance to the partner countries, in accordance with the spirit of the UNDP report;
9. Takes note of the forthcoming signing of the EU-Syria Association Agreement, which commits Damascus to deep and substantial reforms with a view to starting a genuine process of democratising Syria's structures; calls on Syria not to tolerate any kind of terrorism, including supporting the military wing of Hizbullah, as well as to refrain from any interference in Lebanese internal policies; asks for an immediate withdrawal of troops from the country as stated in the UNSC resolutions; calls on the Council to consider sending a delegation of EU observers to monitor the elections in Lebanon;
10. Strongly condemns the terrorist attack which killed the ex-Prime Minister of Lebanon Mr Hariri and his escort and announces that it will pay close attention to the findings of the international inquiry now underway;
11. Calls for the release of Dr Nour; considers that the waiver of immunity of a Member of the Egyptian Parliament and his detention undermines the spirit and the letter of the association agreement between the EU and Egypt; calls on the Commission, the Council and the High Representative for the CFSP to bring every influence to bear to remind the Egyptian authorities of the spirit of that agreement.
12. Calls on Libya to ensure the necessary steps and undertakings, including the urgent release from prison of foreign medical workers, that will allow it to be fully included in the Euro-Mediterranean partnership, thus contributing to the enhancement of the Barcelona process;
13. Welcomes the latest positive developments as to the Middle East conflict, which will affect in a decisive manner the full development of the whole Euromed partnership, and calls on all partner countries to make every effort to support the resumption of dialogue and make the Road Map effective;
14. Calls on the Council and Commission, in their relations with the Mediterranean partners, to make concrete proposals for progress in the security aspect, making use of elements of the European Security Strategy, as well as of the crisis management instruments already created at the Commission;
15. Expresses its satisfaction at the increasing and considerable improvement in the performance of the MEDA funds;

RC\557362EN.doc

PE 354.218v01-00}
PE 354.223v01-00}
PE 354.224v01-00}
PE 354.231v01-00}
PE 354.237v01-00}
PE 354.240v01-00} RC1

16. Stresses the importance of the promotion and extension of the trans-European networks, especially in the fields of energy and transport, for relations and cooperation with the Mediterranean partners;
17. Supports the proposal to set up a Mediterranean early warning system for disaster prevention, in the light of the lessons to be learnt from the tsunami that hit South-East Asia;
18. Believes that the signing of the Agadir agreement between Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan in February 2004 is a good signal to reinforce the axis of South-South cooperation as a complement to that of North-South cooperation; and urges all the countries in the Mediterranean region to consolidate their relations, including trade relations, and, if necessary, remove any obstacles;
19. Looks forward with interest to the inaugural session of the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures; is convinced that its action can make a contribution to increasing mutual understanding and making the most of our common heritage;
20. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States and the Mediterranean countries signatory to the Barcelona Declaration, and the President of the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly.