



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Plenary sitting

23.5.2012

B7-0239/2012 }
B7-0249/2012 }
B7-0257/2012 } RC1

JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rules 122(5) and 110(4) of the Rules of Procedure

replacing the motions by the following groups:

Verts/ALE (B7-0239/2012)

S&D (B7-0249/2012)

GUE/NGL (B7-0257/2012)

on the possible withdrawal of Venezuela from the Inter-American Commission on
Human Rights

(2012/2653(RSP))

Véronique De Keyser, María Muñoz De Urquiza,

Luis Yáñez-Barnuevo García

on behalf of the S&D Group

Raül Romeva i Rueda, Ana Miranda, Rui Tavares, Ulrike Lunacek,

Catherine Grèze

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

Willy Meyer

on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

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United in diversity

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**European Parliament resolution on the possible withdrawal of Venezuela from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
(2012/2653(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Venezuela,
 - having regard to Rules 122(5) and 110(4) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the Organisation of American States (OAS) created its own regional human rights system, with an Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, which came into being in 1959, and an Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which was established in 1979 and whose rulings are based on the American Convention on Human Rights or ‘Pact of San José’, which entered into force in 1978, as a complement and corrective to faltering national justice systems;
- B. whereas 24 out of the 34 members of the OAS have so far ratified the American Convention on Human Rights, with Canada remaining outside this system, the USA regrettably not being part of this system either, as it has signed but not ratified the Convention, and Trinidad and Tobago regrettably having cancelled its membership over the death penalty issue, without major consequences;
- C. whereas young Latin American and Caribbean regional cooperation systems, such as UNASUR and more recently CELAC, are engaged in establishing regional human rights bodies, which should comprise all the countries of the region without exception;
- D. whereas Venezuela is currently a member of the Inter-American Commission and Court of Human Rights, as well as a state party to the Convention, and takes an active part in the mechanisms of the United Nations Human Rights Council;
- E. whereas the Venezuelan State Council has on its agenda a ruling issued by the Supreme Court on 18 December 2008 on whether to withdraw from the American Convention, and whereas a recommendation of the State Council, whether for or against, must be discussed and decided upon by the National Assembly;
1. Is concerned at Venezuela’s announcement that it is establishing a state committee to evaluate the possibility of withdrawing from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights;
 2. Strongly supports regional human rights bodies, as part of the international human rights system, and explicitly invites the European Commission and EU Member States to step up their overall support for the Inter-American Human Rights Court, Commission and Convention, as well as for the relevant UNASUR and CELAC mechanisms as soon as these are set up;
 3. Encourages the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to work towards reaching full respect for human rights, particularly with regard to social rights, women’s rights and

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indigenous people's rights;

4. Encourages the Government of Venezuela and all other members of the OAS to cooperate with regional and international human rights mechanisms, and urges them not to take any measures that would weaken human rights protection;
5. Asks Venezuela to be fully committed to the protection and defence of human rights;
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the EEAS, the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the UN Human Rights Council.