Resolution on human rights violations in Transnistria (Moldova)

2007/2604(RSP) - 12/07/2007 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

Following the debate which took place during the sitting of 12 July 2007, the European Parliament adopted a resolution on human rights violations in Transnistria (Republic of Moldova) pursuant to Rule 115 of the Rules of Procedure (debates on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law).

Parliament strongly deplores the lack of respect for human rights and human dignity in Transnistria, as reflected by the trial and detention of the Ilacu Group, the denial of the liberties of the population living in that area, ignoring the right to access to information and education, resulting in widespread trafficking in human beings and organised crime. It condemns the continued repression, harassment and intimidation of representatives of the independent media, NGOs and civil society by the Transnistrian separatist regime and demands the cessation of deprivation of freedom of persons for political activity.

The report states that the 1992 war in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova led to the establishment of a separatist, illegitimate and authoritarian regime in the region. The situation of the frozen conflict persists and human rights violations continue to be gross and widespread. Given that no solution has been found to this day, MEPs call for a rapid and final settlement to the frozen conflict in Transnistria, which will secure democracy and respect for human rights throughout the entire territory of the Republic of Moldova, in accordance with international principles. Parliament calls for a greater involvement of the EU in solving this conflict in its immediate neighbourhood, including the enhancement of the EU's status to that of a negotiating partner.

Parliament emphasises the EU's firm commitment to the territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova and points out that the illegitimate regime of Tiraspol has no authority to stop citizens of the Republic of Moldova from entering the territory of the left bank of the Nistru river and has no authority to issue 'persona non-grata' decisions.

The Commission and the Council are called upon to envisage measures of greater and comprehensive involvement in the process of negotiation and of solving the above-mentioned conflict. MEPs note the successful joint EU border mission with Ukraine based in Odessa and calls on the Government of Ukraine to continue its support for the mission.

The report reminds all parties that the separatist regime of Transnistria allows organised crime, including trafficking in arms and in human beings, smuggling and money laundering activities to flourish.

Lastly, the EU is called to raise the issue of the withdrawal of the Russian troops from Transnistria within the framework of EU-Russia relations.