Resolution on Iran

2008/2604(RSP) - 19/06/2008 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

Following the debate which took place during the sitting of 19 June 2008, the European Parliament adopted by 58 votes to 0, a resolution on Iran. The resolution had been tabled for consideration in plenary by the EPP-ED, PES, ALDE, UEN, Greens/EFA and GUE/NGL groups.

Parliament strongly condemns the death sentences and executions in Iran, in particular those imposed or carried out on juvenile offenders and minors, and urges the Iranian authorities to respect internationally recognised legal safeguards with regard to minors. It stresses that juvenile death sentences are in direct contravention of the international obligations and commitments to which the Islamic Republic of Iran is a signatory, specifically as set out in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, both clearly prohibiting the execution of minors or people who have been convicted of crimes committed when they were minors. Parliament condemns in the strongest possible terms the execution of Mohammad Hassanzadeh, who was under the age of 18 when he was executed. The Iranian authorities are urged to halt the execution of Behnoud Shojaee, Mohammad Fedaei, Saeed Jazee, Behnam Zaare and all other juvenile offenders sentenced to death.

Parliament calls on the members of the newly elected Majlis (the Iranian Parliament) speedily to pass the pending reform of the Iranian penal code, with the aim, notably, of abolishing stoning and executions of child offenders, to move towards a moratorium on the death penalty and to bring Iranian legislation into line with international human rights obligations. It also calls for the decriminalisation of same-sex relations in Iran.

Member States must suspend the expulsion to Iran of persons who are threatened with execution or torture.