Declaration on restoring NTDTV Television broadcasts to China via Eutelsat

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The European Parliament adopted a Declaration on restoring NTDTV Television broadcasts to China via Eutelsat.

The Parliament recalls that the European Union is based on and defined by its adherence to the principles of freedom, democracy and respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law. It notes, however, that freedom of speech, and particularly that of the media (including the Internet), is heavily restricted in China. Moreover, the Parliament recalls that NTDTV is a non-profit-making television broadcaster and is the only independent Chinese-language television station to broadcast into China since 2004. However, Eutelsat suspended NTDTV's broadcasts into China as of 16 June 2008, a few weeks before the Olympic Games, citing technical reasons, and provided no other explanation.

In this context, the Parliament urges Eutelsat to resume NTDTV transmission to China without delay and to provide reasons for its suspension. It also calls on the Commission and Member States to take the necessary action to help restore NTDTV's broadcasts to China and to support access to uncensored information for millions of Chinese citizens.