Resolution on the case of Rafah Nashed in Syria

2011/2876(RSP) - 27/10/2011 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 63 votes to 0 with 6 abstentions a resolution on the case of Rafah Nashed in Syria.

The resolution was tabled by the, S&D, ECR, GUE/NGL, Greens/EFA, ALDE and EPP groups.

It strongly condemns the arbitrary arrest and detention of Rafah Nashed by the Syrian authorities, and expresses the gravest concern about the situation of Ms Nashed, in view of her precarious state of health. It calls on the Syrian authorities **immediately and unconditionally to release Ms Nashed on medical and humanitarian grounds and to guarantee her physical safety** and return her to her family without further delay. Members recall that Rafah Nashed is Syria's first practising psychoanalyst and the founder of the Damascus School of Psychoanalysis, who is known for treating victims of psychological trauma as well as for her active engagement in favour of dialogue between all Syrians. She was arbitrarily arrested and detained on 10 September 2011 by officers of the General Intelligence Services, and accused of ‘activities likely to destabilise the State’. Parliament notes that the nature of the accusation and the paranoia that has gripped the regime for the last six months raise fears of a lengthy period of detention intended to intimidate the whole of Syria's intellectual community.

It **demands that the Syrian authorities allow humanitarian organisations and doctors to treat the victims of violence**, and that they give them access to all parts of the country and enable them to carry out their legitimate and peaceful work without fear of reprisals and free of all restrictions, including judicial harassment. The Syrian authorities are called upon to **abide by international human rights standards a** nd international commitments guaranteeing freedom of opinion and expression.