Resolution on the situation in Venezuela

2017/2651(RSP) - 27/04/2017 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 450 votes to 35, with 100 abstentions, a resolution on the situation in Venezuela.

The text adopted in plenary had been tabled by the EPP, S&D, ECR and ALDE groups.

Concerned about the **seriously deteriorating situation as regards democracy**, human rights and the socio-economic situation in Venezuela, Parliament strongly **condemned the brutal repression** exercised by the Venezuelan security forces, as well as irregular armed groups, against the peaceful protests, as a result of which more than 20 people have died, a large number have been wounded and there have been many arrests.

Members condemned the **continued unconstitutional violation** of the democratic order in Venezuela and the lack of separation of powers and independence of the branches of government. They strongly rejected the **decisions of the Supreme Court** of Venezuela to suspend the powers of the National Assembly and considers it a fundamentally undemocratic action.

The Venezuelan Government is called upon to:

- ensure the immediate and unconditional release of all political prisoners, a prerequisite for a durable peaceful solution in Venezuela;
- guarantee the constitutional right to freedom of peaceful assembly and security and free exercise of rights for all citizens;
- safeguard the separation and independence of branches and to restore full constitutional authority to the National Assembly;
- comply with the constitution and to present as soon as possible an electoral calendar that will allow free and transparent electoral processes to take place;
- allow humanitarian aid into the country as a matter of urgency and to grant access to the international organisations that wish to assist the worst affected sectors of society.

While welcoming the willingness of many countries in the region to facilitate a mediation process to reach a national agreement, Parliament called on the VP/HR, furthermore, to actively explore with international and regional organisations other measures that would enable the EU to restore full democracy to Venezuela.

Lastly, Members called for a European Parliament delegation to be sent to Venezuela and for a dialogue to be held with all sectors involved in the conflict.