

# Resolution on the situation in Burkina Faso following the coup d'état

2022/2865(RSP) - 20/10/2022 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on the situation in Burkina Faso following the coup d'état.

The text adopted in plenary was tabled by the EPP, S&D, Renew, Greens/EFA and ECR groups.

On 30 September 2022, members of the Burkina Faso military, led by Captain Ibrahim Traoré, carried out a coup d'état, overthrowing President Lieutenant-Colonel Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba. Former President Damiba had seized power in a coup on 24 January 2022 that overthrew President Roch Kaboré, who had been democratically elected in November 2020.

The constitution, first suspended after 30 September 2022, was reinstated by the Fundamental Act adopted by the Patriotic Movement for Safeguard and Restoration (MPSR) on 5 October 2022, which ensures respect for international agreements to which Burkina Faso is a party and guaranteed the continuity of the state pending the subsequent adoption of the transitional charter.

Parliament condemned the military coup of 30 September 2022 and demanded an urgent return to constitutional order, including an immediate return to civilian government. Members called on the next government to meet its commitment to honour the country's international commitments, including those related to the promotion and protection of human rights, as well as respecting the timetable agreed upon for a rapid return to constitutional order and inclusive and transparent elections by 1 July 2024. The next government is also asked to redefine its security response, in full partnership with the international community, in a manner that respects the rule of law, protects human rights and rebuilds public trust.

## Financial support and humanitarian aid

The resolution called for the EU and its Member States to increase their financial support and humanitarian aid in order to meet the urgent needs of the people of Burkina Faso, and in particular the needs of displaced persons and refugees in neighbouring countries. The EU is urged to promote Burkina Faso's right to food sovereignty as a means of achieving nutritional security and poverty reduction, devoting particular attention to women and family farming, with the aim of securing the supply of affordable and accessible food.

## Security and the Wagner Group

Increasing political and security instability and the dire socio-economic and humanitarian situation in Burkina Faso has provided an opportunity for terrorist groups to wreak havoc and has profound international consequences. Terrorism and instability across the Sahel region are challenging and undermining democratic consolidation and the rule of law. The EU is called on to increase cooperation and support in addressing all of these challenges.

Yevgeny Prigozhin, the head of the Russian private military company the Wagner Group, welcomed the September coup. The Wagner Group continues to expand its activities in the Sahel region and Western Africa and is known to have perpetrated numerous war crimes in the region.

In this regard, Parliament is deeply concerned about the activities of the Wagner Group in the region and strongly advised the next government against pursuing any kind of partnership with the group. It firmly

believes that the involvement of private security companies accused of gross human rights violations would run counter to the objective of bringing peace, security and stability to Burkina Faso.

Parliament also expressed its concern about the rise in Russian disinformation campaigns against EU missions and operations in Africa.