Resolution on entry into force of the Statute of the International Criminal Court

2002/2520(RSP) - 28/02/2002 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on the entry into force of a statute of the proposed International Criminal Court. This will be a permanent Court to investigate and bring to justice individuals, not countries, who commit the most serious crimes of concern to the international community, such as genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity-including widespread murder of civilians, torture and mass rape. The ICC will be a global judicial institution, an international jurisdiction complementing national legal systems. At present the United States is opposed to it. However, the Parliament congratulated the 52 states that already ratified the Rome Treaty, including 13 Member States of the EU, some candidate and associated countries and look forward to the statute coming into force. The Rome Statute of the international Criminal Court, for which has world wide jurisdiction an is complementary to international criminal jurisdiction, is based on very high standards of justice and will constitute an MEPs invited the respective countries that have not yet done so. In addition, the Parliament requests that the European Union and the Member States, in all bilateral and multilateral contacts, particularly with countries in regions that are under-represented, undertake the necessary steps to encourage the ratification of the Statute and the adoption of implementing legislation by the largest possible number of States. It invites the Member States, the Council and the Commission to use the Union's political leverage under co-operation agreements in order to promote ratification of the Treaty by as many countries as possible. The Parliament calls on the Council to develop a concrete plan of action, for adoption during the Spanish Presidency, in order to promote the ratification of the Rome Statute or accession to it by a very large number of countries and the effective establishment of the Court, in co-operation with the United Nations Preparatory Commission for the ICC and the host country.