Resolution on the ESDP operation in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia FYROM

2003/2524(RSP) - 13/03/2003 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on the ESDP operation in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Parliament welcomes the Council's decision to take over the NATO operation 'Allied Harmony' in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as the EU's first-ever military mission. Around EUR 4.7 million will be pooled by Member States for the joint costs of this mission. The Parliament deplores, however, that Parliament was not informed in advance about the mandate, the capabilities needed and the financial implications, pursuant to Article 21 of the Treaty on European Union. It welcomes the fact that, in the context of the 2004 budget consultations, the Greek Presidency agreed to submit all information in accordance with the Interinstitutional Agreement of 6 May 1999 and the Joint Declaration of 25 November 2002 approved in the 2003 budget procedure. It stresses the need for a clearly defined relationship between the military command structures and the political responsibilities of the High Representative for the CFSP. It calls for the Council, especially in view of the intended take-over of the SFOR command in Bosnia and Herzegovina, to inform Parliament's competent committee, in good time and with the utmost transparency, about: - the mandate and objectives of future ESDP missions, - the security situation for the deployed troops in the country, - the size of the deployed forces, their composition and their equipment, - the relationship between forces under EU control and those under NATO control in the area, - the operation of the command structures from in-the-field level to SHAPE and up to the EU Political and Security Committee, - the civil-military cooperation of the mission and how the operation fits into the context of the Stabilisation and Association process and the other policies of conflict prevention, - the financing of the shared costs of the EU operation, - cooperation with the OSCE and the UN agencies in the region; The Council is called upon to extend the operational financing mechanism, set up for the EU operation in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, to all future European Union military operations. Lastly, Parliament invites the Conference of Presidents to authorise its competent committee to send a fact finding delegation to the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia two months after the start of the operation in order to establish a progress report to evaluate the efficiency of the operation in relation to the above questions.