Recommendation on the European Union's position at the World Conference against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

2001/2557(RSP) - 16/05/2001 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

By adopting the resolution proposed by Mrs Sarah LUDFORD (ELDR, UK) on the European position on the World Conference against racism, the European Parliament emphasises the combat which the European Union is leading against racism and xenophobia and that it should be made a priority issue, both at national and international level and in the framework of the negotitations with candidate countries. The European Union should actively oppose ethnic conflicts and genocide. In its position concerning the World Conference, the Council should firmly condemn attacks on immigrants and members of minority communities, and of racist or discriminatory actions against any groups. It should also acknowledge the connection between, on the one hand, measures to combat racism and on the other, the need to pursue a coordinated European policy on asylum and immigration and promote the equal legal position of immigrants. Moreover, the Union should acknowledge that full respect of the basic rights, including the right to development is an essential factor in preventing ethnic conflicts, particularly in the developing countries. It should also show recognition of the long-term suffering and continuing impact caused by Europe's historical and contemporary experiences, notably slavery and colonialism, the Holocaust, ethnic cleansing and religious intolerance.