Resolution on the situation in Bolivia

2005/2572(RSP) - 09/06/2005 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on Bolivia.

The text adopted in plenary had been tabled as a joint resolution by the EPP-ED, PES, ALDE, Greens /EFA and GUE/NGL groups.

The Parliament recalls that the conflict has worsened in the last few weeks in Bolivia, with a general strike in various regions and industrial action in the education and health sectors which resulted in President Mesa handing in his resignation to the National Congress. The Parliament reiterates its strong and determined support for democracy in Bolivia and hopes that President Mesa's resignation will not leave a power vacuum that may be exploited to divert the country from the path of respect for democratic values and the rule of law.

Moreover, the Parliament expresses concern at the political and social events taking place in La Paz, the seat of executive and legislative power, and hopes that a consensus will be found in Bolivian society, in order to ensure that the country's natural resources, in particular its energy resources, will contribute to its development and the social welfare of its inhabitants.

The Parliament calls for continuing efforts to deepen and broaden democracy in Bolivia and urges the European Union and its Member States to adequately support the democratic process so that the country can extricate itself from the political and economic quagmire, through constructive dialogue between all sectors of the population, in order to create a climate of trust and understanding that is sufficient and necessary to lead the country towards peaceful transition.

Lastly, the Parliament calls for a European Parliament delegation to be sent to the Republic of Bolivia to analyse the current situation on the ground and to propose appropriate forms of aid to support peaceful and democratic transition. It also expresses its willingness to monitor, as an observer, the electoral processes in which its presence may be required.