Resolution on the situation in Fiji

2006/2674(RSP) - 14/12/2006 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on the situation in Fiji.

The resolution was tabled by the EPP-ED, PES, ALDE, Greens/EFA and UEN groups.

The resolution recalls that Commodore Bainimarama led a coup d'état on 5 December 2006 and strongly condemns the take-over of power from the democratically elected government of Fiji by the Fijian military forces and reiterates its strongest possible opposition to actions that undermine the democratic process in Fiji.

MEPs demand that the military forces stand back and return power to the democratically elected government. In this regard, they recall that Fiji held general elections in May 2006, which were deemed credible by international observers and that the coalition government formed by Prime Minister Qarase following the elections has full democratic legitimacy as well as a very large majority in Parliament.

The Parliament considers that a lasting resolution of the current political crisis can only be achieved through peaceful means, respecting the concerns and interests of all communities. It suggests that a "truth and reconciliation commission" be set up in Fiji as a contribution to peaceful coexistence between the country's two main communities.

The resolution calls on the Commission and the Member States to suspend immediately all non-humanitarian aid to Fiji, except in relation to education programmes that are implemented by NGOs. MEPs call on the European Union to put in place an immediate travel ban to prevent members of the military forces, their families or any person linked to the coup d'état in Fiji from entering the Member States.