Basic information

2005/2525(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Resolution on the situation in Cambodia **Subject** 6.10.02 Common security and defence policy (CSDP); WEU, NATO 6.10.09 Human rights situation in the world **Geographical area** Cambodia	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
10/03/2005	Decision by Parliament	T6-0081/2005	Summary
10/03/2005	Results of vote in Parliament		
10/03/2005	Debate in Parliament		
10/03/2005	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2005/2525(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Urgent debate or resolution
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 150
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Motion for a resolution		B6-0190/2005	08/03/2005	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0194/2005	08/03/2005	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0196/2005	08/03/2005	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0207/2005	08/03/2005	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0210/2005	08/03/2005	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0211/2005	08/03/2005	
		T6-0081/2005		

Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects		OJ C 320 15.12.2005, p. 0177-0280 E	10/03/2005	Summary

Resolution on the situation in Cambodia

2005/2525(RSP) - 10/03/2005 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

The European Parliament adopted by 75 votes to 0, with 2 abstentions, a resolution on the situation in Cambodia.

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

The resolution recalls that, on 3 February 2005, the National Assembly of Cambodia lifted the parliamentary immunity of three Members of Parliament belonging to the Sam Rainsy Party. The vote was taken by a show of hands, in violation of the Cambodian National Assembly's own regulations and procedures, and it was taken behind closed doors.

All three parliamentarians now face prosecution on charges ranging from criminal defamation to the formation of a secret military force to overthrow the government. Moreover, Cheam Channy was arrested on the same day, after a warrant has been issued by the Office of the Military Prosecutor, and transferred to the military prison in Phnom Penh on an allegation of organising an anti-government militia.

The Parliament believes that lifting the parliamentary immunity of opposition legislators creates a dangerous precedent which weakens the legislature as an independent institution of the state and the heart of democracy. It calls on the National Assembly of Cambodia to restore immunity immediately to all three Members of Parliament and to ensure that members of the opposition are allowed to sit on its parliamentary committees. It also calls on the government of Cambodia immediately and unconditionally to release Cheam Channy, who should not, as a civilian, be subject to military jurisdiction.

The Government and the Cambodian authorities are called upon to:

- abide by their international commitments, particularly the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, ratified in 1992;
- put an end to persecution of political opponents and human rights activists in their country.

The Commission, the Council and the governments of the Member States are called upon to:

- raise this question with the Cambodian government and to consider imposing appropriate sanctions if the National Assembly and the government of Cambodia do not reverse their recent actions;
- in anticipation of the ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting to be held on 10 and 11 March 2005 in Jakarta, raise the concerns about the current political situation and the threats to democracy resulting from attempts to silence the political opposition in Cambodia.

The Parliament suggests that an EU ad hoc delegation visit Cambodia as soon as possible to evaluate the country's political situation.