Basic information

2007/2542(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Resolution on the initiative for a universal moratorium on the death penalty **Subject** 6.10.08 Fundamental freedoms, human rights, democracy in general	

Key players

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
General Affairs	2800	2007-05-14
General Affairs	2809	2007-06-18
General Affairs	2795	2007-04-23

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
23/04/2007	Debate in Council		
25/04/2007	Debate in Parliament		
26/04/2007	Decision by Parliament	T6-0166/2007	Summary
26/04/2007	Results of vote in Parliament		
26/04/2007	End of procedure in Parliament		
14/05/2007	Debate in Council		Summary
18/06/2007	Debate in Council		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2007/2542(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Resolution on statement
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 136-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Motion for a resolution		B6-0164/2007	25/04/2007	
Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects		T6-0166/2007	26/04/2007	Summary

Resolution on the initiative for a universal moratorium on the death penalty

2007/2542(RSP) - 14/05/2007

Ministers discussed current activities aimed at bringing forward in the UN General Assembly the issue of abolishing the death penalty, notably on the basis of a briefing by the Presidency. They noted that the EU would keep this issue high on the EU and the international agenda and would carefully explore prospects for relaunching consideration of this important question in UN fora. The Presidency will actively continue to implement the EU action plan on the death penalty adopted in February, notably to elicit additional support for the UN declaration against the death penalty.

The Council will decide on possible further steps on the basis of an assessment of the outcome of the EU action plan.

Resolution on the initiative for a universal moratorium on the death penalty

2007/2542(RSP) - 26/04/2007 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on the initiative for a universal moratorium on the death penalty. It pointed out that the call for a universal moratorium on the death penalty is a strategic move towards the abolition of the death penalty in all countries. The statement on the death penalty presented by the European Union in the UN General Assembly on 19 December 2006 has now gathered 88 signatures from countries in all geographical groups, and Parliament reiterated its call to the EU Member States to gather third-country support for the statement.

It encouraged the EU to seize the existing opportunities and press its case. All Member States and the EU must immediately submit - seeking the co-sponsorship of countries in other continents - a resolution for a universal moratorium on the death penalty to the current UN General Assembly. The EU Presidency should encourage those remaining countries which have not signed and ratified the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to do so, and those Member States that have not signed Protocol No 13 to the European Convention on Human Rights on the death penalty must do so.

Parliament endorsed the declaration at the third World Congress against the Death Penalty held in Paris between 1 and 3 February 2007 and intended to follow up It would develop the parliamentary dimension of the global campaign against the death penalty and raise the matter through its interparliamentary delegations and participation in the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly and the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly.

The Council and the Commission were asked to take every possible opportunity to support the establishment of regional abolitionist coalitions.

Lastly, Parliament calls on all EU institutions, together with the Council of Europe, to support the World Day against the Death Penalty by declaring 10 October a European Day against the Death Penalty, from 2007 onwards. It endorsed the initiative of organising a high-profile European conference against the death penalty in connection with that day, and mandated its President to represent the European Parliament on that occasion.