Basic information	
2007/2564(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Resolution on the Radio Caracas TV channel case in Venezuela **Subject** 6.10.08 Fundamental freedoms, human rights, democracy in general	

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
24/05/2007	Decision by Parliament	T6-0216/2007	Summary
24/05/2007	Results of vote in Parliament		
24/05/2007	Debate in Parliament		
24/05/2007	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2007/2564(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		B6-0206/2007	22/05/2007	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0223/2007	22/05/2007	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0231/2007	22/05/2007	
Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects		T6-0216/2007	24/05/2007	Summary

Resolution on the Radio Caracas TV channel case in Venezuela

2007/2564(RSP) - 24/05/2007 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

The European Parliament adopted a joint resolution on the Radio Caracas TV channel case in Venezuela, and condemed the decision by the President of Venezuela, Hugo Chávez, not to renew the broadcasting licence of one of the country's leading television and radio stations, Radio Caracas Televisión (RCTV). The current licence expires on 27 May 2007.

MEPs were divided over some aspects of this issue, with rival resolutions coming from the EPP-ED, ALDE and UEN groups on the one hand, and the PES, Greens/EFA and GUE/NGL on the other. The former was adopted by 43 votes to 22 with 0 abstentions.

The adopted resolution states that non-renewal of the licence will deprive a large section of the public of a pluralist source of information, thus undermining the right of the press to criticise the authorities. According to the Venezuelan government itself, Radio Caracas Televisión is the only media organ whose licence is not being renewed. Parliament pointed out that Venezuela's Constitution guarantees freedom of expression, communication and information and that Venezuela is a signatory to various international pacts which underpin civil and political rights. MEPs believe that if there is any substance to accusations which have been made by the authorities against the RCTV management, these could be tested through ordinary legal proceedings.

Parliament called on the Government of Venezuela, in the name of the principle of the impartiality of the State, to ensure equal treatment under the law for all media, whether private or public, irrespective of all political or ideological considerations. It also called for a dialogue between the Venezuelan Government and the country's private media, while strongly deploring the Government's total unwillingness to engage in dialogue in general, and in the case of RCTV in particular.

Lastly, it asked the relevant delegations and committees of Parliament to examine this issue.