Basic information

2010/2603(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Resolution on the death penalty being declared legal in the Republic of Korea **Subject** 6.10.08 Fundamental freedoms, human rights, democracy in general **Geographical area** South Korea	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
11/03/2010	Decision by Parliament	T7-0068/2010	Summary
11/03/2010	Results of vote in Parliament		
11/03/2010	Debate in Parliament		
11/03/2010	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2010/2603(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		B7-0191/2010	09/03/2010	
Motion for a resolution		B7-0193/2010	09/03/2010	
Motion for a resolution		B7-0194/2010	09/03/2010	
Motion for a resolution		B7-0197/2010	09/03/2010	
Motion for a resolution		B7-0198/2010	09/03/2010	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T7-0068/2010	11/03/2010	Summary

Resolution on the death penalty being declared legal in the Republic of Korea

2010/2603(RSP) - 11/03/2010 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 50 votes to 4 with 4 abstentions a resolution on South Korea – death penalty declared legal.

The resolution was tabled by the S&D, GUE/NGL, Greens/ALE, ALDE, and EPP groups.

It notes that on 25 February 2010, the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Korea ruled by a 5-4 majority that capital punishment is constitutional, but the judges also underlined that the issue of whether to retain or abolish the death penalty should be debated in the National Assembly rather than in the course of constitutional proceedings. Parliament recognises that the Republic of Korea has not carried out any executions since 1998, making it a de facto abolitionist country and it welcomes improvements in the protection and promotion of human rights there. It is deeply disappointed at the decision by the Republic of Korea's Constitutional Court to uphold the death penalty, but notes that the ruling was adopted by a very small majority, unlike the 7-2 verdict in 1996. Parliament reiterates its **general opposition to the death penalty** and expresses its support for movements fighting for the abolition of the death penalty .It encourages the Republic of Korea to institute a **legal moratorium on all executions** until Parliament has passed a law abolishing the death penalty.

Lastly, Parliament calls on the Government of the Republic of Korea to support the UN resolution on the abolition of the death penalty and to decide to co-sponsor or vote in favour of a resolution to be submitted to the General Assembly.