Basic information

2016/2692(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Resolution on the Crimean Tatars **Subject** 6.10.08 Fundamental freedoms, human rights, democracy in general **Geographical area** Black Sea area Russian Federation Ukraine **Legislative priorities** EU support to Ukraine	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
12/05/2016	Decision by Parliament	T8-0218/2016	Summary
12/05/2016	Results of vote in Parliament		
12/05/2016	Debate in Parliament		
12/05/2016	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2016/2692(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Urgent debate or resolution
Other 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		B8-0582/2016	10/05/2016	
Motion for a resolution		B8-0585/2016	10/05/2016	
Motion for a resolution		B8-0586/2016	10/05/2016	
Motion for a resolution		B8-0588/2016	10/05/2016	
Motion for a resolution		B8-0589/2016	10/05/2016	

Motion for a resolution		B8-0590/2016	10/05/2016	
Motion for a resolution		B8-0592/2016	10/05/2016	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T8-0218/2016	12/05/2016	Summary

Resolution on the Crimean Tatars

2016/2692(RSP) - 12/05/2016 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on the Crimean Tatars.

The resolution was tabled by the EPP, S&D, ECR, ALDE and Greens/EFA groups.

Parliament strongly condemned the decision of the so-called Supreme Court of Crimea to ban the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People, and **demanded its immediate reversal**. Parliament considered this decision to constitute systemic and targeted persecution of the Crimean Tatars, and to be a politically motivated action aimed at further intimidating the legitimate representatives of the Tatar community.

It pointed out that the ban on the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People, which is the legitimate and recognised representative body of the indigenous people of Crimea, will provide fertile ground for stigmatising the Crimean Tatars, further discriminating against them and violating their human rights and basic civil liberties. Parliament is concerned that the branding of the Mejlis as an extremist organisation may lead to additional charges in accordance with provisions of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation.

Supporting the Crimean Tatar Assembly: Parliament recalled that on 26 April 2016 the so-called Supreme Court of Crimea ruled in favour of a request by the so-called Prosecutor-General of Crimea, Natalia Poklonskaya, accusing the Mejlis, which had been the representative body of the Crimean Tatars since its establishment in 1991 and had enjoyed full legal status since May 1999, of extremism, terrorism, human rights violations, illegal actions and acts of sabotage against the authorities. The banning of the Mejlis means that it will be prohibited from convening, publishing its views in the mass media, holding public events or using bank accounts. Therefore, Parliament called for the EU to provide **financial support for the activities of the Mejlis while it is in exile.**

Recalling the sad second anniversary of the illegal annexation of the Crimean peninsula by the Russian Federation on 20 February 2014, Parliament recalled its severe condemnation of that act, which was in breach of international law and called for consideration to be given to extending the list of people targeted by EU sanctions in relation to the banning of the Mejlis.

Respecting territorial integrity of Ukraine: Parliament reconfirmed its full commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders and its free and sovereign choice to pursue a European path. It called on all parties to immediately **pursue peaceful reintegration of the occupied Crimean peninsula into the Ukrainian legal order through political dialogue** and in full compliance with international law.

Restrictions on freedom of expression: Parliament condemned the severe restrictions on the freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly, including at traditional commemorative events such as the anniversary of the **deportation of the Crimean Tatars by Stalin's totalitarian Soviet Union regime** and at cultural gatherings of the Crimean Tatars. It regretted the fact that discriminatory policies applied by the so-called authorities are preventing the return of these properties and resources, or are being used as an instrument to buy support. Russia is called upon to uphold the legal order in Crimea and protect citizens from arbitrary judicial or administrative measures and rulings.

It called for permanent and unimpeded access to Crimea for the relevant international human rights bodies, with the aim of monitoring the human rights situation. It also called for the preservation of the historical and traditional multicultural environment of Crimea and for full respect for Ukrainian, Tatar and other minority languages and distinctive cultures.

Parliament called on Russia to investigate all cases of torture of prisoners illegally apprehended in Crimea and to end the politically motivated prosecution of dissidents and civic activists. It also reiterated its grave concern regarding the situation of LGBTI people in Crimea, which has substantially worsened following the Russian annexation.