Basic information

2017/2510(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Resolution on the rule of law crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and in Gabon **Subject** 6.10.04 Third-country political situation, local and regional conflicts 6.10.08 Fundamental freedoms, human rights, democracy in general **Geographical area** Congo DR, ex-Zaire Gabon	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
01/02/2017	Debate in Parliament		
02/02/2017	Decision by Parliament	T8-0017/2017	Summary
02/02/2017	Results of vote in Parliament		
02/02/2017	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2017/2510(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		B8-0120/2017	01/02/2017	
Motion for a resolution		B8-0121/2017	01/02/2017	
Motion for a resolution		B8-0122/2017	01/02/2017	
Motion for a resolution		B8-0123/2017	01/02/2017	
Motion for a resolution		B8-0124/2017	01/02/2017	
Motion for a resolution		B8-0125/2017	01/02/2017	

Motion for a resolution		B8-0126/2017	01/02/2017	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T8-0017/2017	02/02/2017	Summary

Resolution on the rule of law crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and in Gabon

2017/2510(RSP) - 02/02/2017 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on the rule of law crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and in Gabon.

The text adopted in plenary was tabled by the EPP, S&D, ECR, ALDE, GUE/NGL, Greens/EFA and EFDD groups.

Members stated that they are deeply concerned at the increasingly unstable situation in both countries and urged the authorities to abide by their international obligations and guarantee human rights.

As regards Gabon, Members deplored the fact that the appeal procedure which led to Ali Bongo being declared the winner in the election was conducted in an opaque manner, and that the Constitutional Court failed to take proper account of the irregularities noted in some provinces.

Parliament strongly condemned the intimidation and threats against members of the European Union electoral observation mission (EU EOM) and the attacks challenging its neutrality and transparency. They urged the Government of Gabon to conduct a thorough and expeditious reform of the electoral framework, taking account of the recommendations made by the EU EOM.

Moreover, they called for the EU, in collaboration with the UN and the African Union, to continue to monitor closely the overall situation in Gabon and to report all cases of violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Council was urged to initiate a consultation process under Article 96 of the Cotonou Agreement as soon as there is a lack of progress in the intensified political dialogue. If no agreement can be reached within the consultation process, Parliament shall invite the Council to consider imposing targeted sanctions on those responsible for the post-electoral violence and human rights abuses, and for undermining the democratic process in the country.

As regards the DRC, Parliament reiterated its call for necessary steps to be taken to **create an environment conducive to free, fair and credible elections** to be held no later than December 2017. It urged the Congolese Government to immediately address open questions related to the sequencing of the electoral calendar, its budget and called for the European Union and its Member States to support the implementation of the agreement and the holding of the electoral process.

Lastly, Parliament called on the Congolese and Gabonese authorities to ratify the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance at the earliest opportunity and recalled that the situation in Gabon and the DRC poses a serious threat to the stability of the Central African region as a whole.