Basic information

2017/2830(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Resolution on Gabon: repression of the opposition **Subject** 6.10.08 Fundamental freedoms, human rights, democracy in general **Geographical area** Gabon	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
14/09/2017	Decision by Parliament	T8-0349/2017	Summary
14/09/2017	Results of vote in Parliament		
14/09/2017	Debate in Parliament		
14/09/2017	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2017/2830(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		B8-0522/2017	06/09/2017	
Motion for a resolution		B8-0512/2017	13/09/2017	
Motion for a resolution		B8-0514/2017	13/09/2017	
Motion for a resolution		B8-0515/2017	13/09/2017	
Motion for a resolution		B8-0520/2017	13/09/2017	
Motion for a resolution		B8-0524/2017	13/09/2017	
Motion for a resolution		B8-0526/2017	14/09/2017	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T8-0349/2017	14/09/2017	Summary

Resolution on Gabon: repression of the opposition

2017/2830(RSP) - 14/09/2017 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on Gabon: repression of the opposition

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

It noted that Gabon has witnessed an **increase in political violence**, particularly in particular the post-electoral violence since August 2016, during which arrests, killings and enforced disappearances took place.

Members strongly condemned the pressure and intimidation being exerted on the opposition in Gabon, deeming it unacceptable that several leaders of the Gabon opposition, including the candidate in the 2016 presidential election, Jean Ping, were denied the right to leave the country. Further, they noted that the government has forbidden political opponents who contest the victory of Ali Bongo to speak in public and private media, and stressed the fundamental role the opposition plays in a democratic society.

Under the circumstances, Parliament called for an **international inquiry**, led by the UN, into the elections and the abuses that have been committed since. At the same time, it called on the VP/HR, the Commission and the Member States to review their policies towards Gabon and to consider **targeted sanctions** for individuals responsible for the electoral fraud and the subsequent violence.

Parliament referred to its previous resolution on the crisis regarding the rule of law in Gabon and 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. It also reminded Gabon of its duties and responsibilities as a **State Party under the Cotonou Agreement,** including the obligation to provide clear and tangible information on the reforms undertaken since the ratification, and on the post-electoral violence. It urged all parties involved in the Intensified Political Dialogue to work towards a tangible success of this process.

Lastly, Members welcomed the investigation conducted in France on the ill-gotten gains from Gabon and called for the utmost transparency regarding the EUR 1.3 million payment made into a French bank account linked to the Bongo family.