Basic information

2020/2783(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Resolution on the case of Dr. Denis Mukwege in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) **Subject** 6.10.08 Fundamental freedoms, human rights, democracy in general **Geographical area** Congo DR, ex-Zaire	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
17/09/2020	Decision by Parliament	T9-0234/2020	Summary
17/09/2020	Debate in Parliament		
17/09/2020	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2020/2783(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		B9-0286/2020	17/09/2020	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0287/2020	17/09/2020	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0288/2020	17/09/2020	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0289/2020	17/09/2020	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0293/2020	17/09/2020	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0296/2020	17/09/2020	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0298/2020	17/09/2020	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0234/2020	17/09/2020	Summary

Resolution on the case of Dr. Denis Mukwege in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

2020/2783(RSP) - 17/09/2020 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution by 654 votes to 5, with 26 abstentions, on the case of Dr Denis Mukwege in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

The text adopted in plenary had been tabled as a joint resolution by the EPP, S&D, Renew, Greens/EFA, ECR and GUE/NGL groups.

Parliament's full support for Dr. Mukwege

Members expressed serious concern about the grave danger experienced by Dr Mukwege, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2018 and the European Parliament's Sakharov Prize in 2014 for dedicating his life to treating victims of sexual violence in the DRC. They condemned the recent death threats against him and his family as well as members of the staff at the Panzi hospital where he works and where nearly 55 000 survivors were treated until August 2018.

Dr. Mukwege receives constant threats, including death threats against himself, his family and medical staff at Panzi Hospital in response to bring an end to impunity for perpetrators of sexual crimes and massacres in Kipupu, Sange and Ituri province.

While welcoming the UN's decision to restore protection for Dr Mukwege's safety, Parliament called on the DRC government to conduct a thorough investigation into these threats without delay.

General human rights situation in the country

Parliament called on the DRC authorities to reinforce efforts to prevent further human rights violations in eastern DRC and to take steps to put in place mechanisms that will ensure that victims of future conflicts have their rights to justice and reparation respected. It called on the government of the DRC to review the work of its previous Truth and Reconciliation Commission and invited UN Security Council Member States to call for the establishment of an International Criminal Tribunal that would take forward the documented cases of human rights abuses dating back prior to 2002.

The resolution called on the VP/HR, the EU delegation and EU missions in the DRC to strengthen their visible support to human rights defenders at risk in the DRC, using all available instruments (political, diplomatic and financial). It also called on the EU to maintain sanctions against the perpetrators of human rights abuses in the DRC.

Parliament recalled that the violence in eastern DRC is perpetrated by armed domestic groups and foreign rebels which are financed by and vying for access to the mineral trade. It stressed that all companies, individuals, states or state-related actors who contribute to the perpetration of such crimes should be brought to justice. It stressed the urgent need for further action on due diligence and responsible behaviour of companies operating in conflict zones.