Basic information

2023/3025(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Resolution on the abduction of Tibetan children and forced assimilation practices through Chinese boarding schools in Tibet **Subject** 4.10.03 Child protection, children's rights **Geographical area** Tibet	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
13/12/2023	Debate in Parliament		
14/12/2023	Decision by Parliament	T9-0479/2023	Summary
14/12/2023	Results of vote in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2023/3025(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Urgent debate or resolution
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 150-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Motion for a resolution		B9-0508/2023	11/12/2023	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0510/2023	11/12/2023	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0512/2023	11/12/2023	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0518/2023	11/12/2023	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0521/2023	11/12/2023	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0522/2023	11/12/2023	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0479/2023	14/12/2023	Summary

Resolution on the abduction of Tibetan children and forced assimilation practices through Chinese boarding schools in Tibet

2023/3025(RSP) - 14/12/2023 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 477 votes to 14, with 45 abstentions, a resolution on the abduction of Tibetan children and forced assimilation practices through Chinese boarding schools in Tibet.

The text adopted in plenary was tabled by the EPP, S&D, Renew, Greens/EFA, ECR groups and Members.

Chinese authorities have established an expansive system of de facto compulsory, highly politicised boarding schools for children aged 4 to 18, requiring them to undergo mandatory education in Mandarin without any opportunity for substantive study of the Tibetan language, history or culture. Approximately 80 % of Tibetan children, totalling around one million, have been separated from their families by this system, which aims to forcibly assimilate them culturally, religiously and linguistically into the Han majority. Moreover, there are almost no private alternatives to these government schools.

UN experts are concerned that Tibetan children are thus suffering from severe psychological and emotional distress, including loneliness and isolation, and are losing the ability to communicate easily in their native language with their families, contributing to the erosion of their individual and social identity, which violates international human rights and may amount to genocide.

Parliament strongly condemned the repressive assimilation policies throughout China, especially the boarding school system in Tibet, that seek to eliminate the distinct linguistic, cultural and religious traditions among Tibetans and other minorities, such as Uyghurs. It called for the immediate abolishment of the boarding school system imposed on children in Tibet and the practice of family separations.

The resolution further called on the Chinese authorities to:

- reengage with the representatives of the 14th Dalai Lama to establish genuine autonomy for Tibetans within China;

- allow the establishment of private Tibetan schools.

Arguing that efforts to forcibly assimilate Tibetan children violate international human rights law, the resolution welcomed the U.S. decision to restrict visas on Chinese officials tied to the boarding school system in Tibet, with Members also urging the EU to adopt similar targeted sanctions.