

Thursday, 23 May 1996

9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the President, Government and Parliament of Albania and the President, Government and Parliament of Belarus.

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(e) **B4-0606, 0621 and 0647/96**

**Resolution on human rights in Tunisia**

*The European Parliament,*

- A. deeply disturbed by the deterioration in the human rights situation in Tunisia,
- B. whereas the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Tunisia, of the other part, stresses respect for democratic principles and human rights, reciprocity and partnership,
- C. dismayed at the persecution to which political opposition figures and their families are subjected,
- D. concerned at the frequent obstruction of the freedom of movement of Tunisian nationals whose passports are confiscated, in particular the recent case of Mr Frej Fenniche,
- E. concerned at the accounts given in UN and other international bodies' reports of maltreatment, torture and lack of medical care suffered by detainees, including deaths in custody in suspicious circumstances,
- F. alarmed at the absence of freedom of the press,
- G. gravely concerned at the arrest of Mr Najib Hosni, a human rights lawyer, the trial of Mohammed Moudda, which did not comply with human rights or the international treaties ratified by Tunisia, the treatment of Doctor Marzouki, former President of the Tunisian Human Rights League, and the arrest of Mr Chamari, an MP and Vice-Chairman of the SDM,
- H. welcoming the release of Sofiane Mouri and Hafedh Ben Gharbia and hoping that the Tunisian authorities will continue on this course,
1. Is aware that Tunisia is in a period of economic, political and social transition and must face up to the challenges of extremist movements but does not consider that to warrant the stifling of democratic freedoms which can ultimately only give succour to the extremists themselves and increase their influence;
2. Calls on the Council and Commission to use the political dialogue established between the European Union and Tunisia to persuade the Tunisian authorities to alter their policy towards the democratic opposition and honour their international human rights commitments;
3. Calls on its Delegation for relations with the Maghreb countries and the Arab Maghreb Union to tackle the question of human rights at its next meeting with members of the Tunisian parliament;
4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the Tunisian Government and the Tunisian parliament.

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(f) **B4-0636 and 0649/96**

**Resolution on human rights in Tibet**

*The European Parliament,*

- recalling its earlier resolutions on the situation in Tibet,

Thursday, 23 May 1996

- A. gravely concerned by reports from Beijing and Lhasa that the Chinese authorities of occupied Tibet have widened a ban on pictures of the Dalai Lama from monasteries and temples to include schools and private homes, whereas pictures of the Dalai Lama in Tibet had been allowed since 1979,
  - B. deploring that, according to these reports, house-to-house searches are being made to check for possession of photographs of the Dalai Lama,
  - C. noting the reports of death and serious injury of a number of Tibetans as a result of violent suppression of the resulting protest,
1. Deplores China's increasing policy of repression and intimidation, as well as their continued policy of transferring population, in Tibet;
  2. Calls on the Chinese authorities to respect the freedom of religion of the Tibetan people;
  3. Urges the Chinese authorities to ensure that all those injured are allowed access to medical treatment without fear of arrest or intimidation;
  4. Instructs its Delegation for Relations with China to raise these issues with their counterparts during the upcoming meeting in Beijing in an appropriate manner;
  5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Tibetan Government in Exile.

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(g) **B4-0650/96**

**Resolution on threats to the right to life of disabled persons**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the European Convention on Human Rights,
  - having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
  - having regard to its opinion on the biomedicine and health programme under the fourth research framework programme,
- A. referring to the visit by the Australian bio-ethicist, Peter Singer, to Europe,
  - B. whereas there are scientists in and outside Europe who assert that disabled persons have no unrestricted right to life,
  - C. whereas the right to life even of new-born children generally is being called into question,
  - D. whereas many disabled persons see such theses as direct threats to their lives,
  - E. whereas such theses are not only advanced by individuals but are increasingly finding acceptance in the scientific world,
  - F. whereas it is essential to reject and treat with contempt theses which resurrect in any way the concept of life without value since such theses are incompatible with universally valid human rights,
1. Repudiates forcefully the thesis that disabled persons, patients in a persistent vegetative state and new-born children have no unrestricted right to life;
  2. Reaffirms its unshakable conviction that the right to life must be recognized in respect of every human being independently of his or her state of health, gender, race or age;