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4. Asks also that all countries of Central and Eastern Europe which have not already done so adopt appropriate legislation for the return of other property plundered by the Communists or the Nazis and their accomplices to their rightful owners;

5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the Council of Europe and the countries which have applied to join the European Union.

18. Human rights

(a) B4-1504, 1505, 1508, 1545, 1550 and 1564/95

Resolution on the persecution of Wei Jingsheng

The European Parliament,

A. appalled by the savage 14-year prison sentence inflicted on 13 December 1995 by the Intermediate Court in Beijing on Wei Jingsheng, the Chinese dissident,

B. recognizing that Wei Jingsheng, who was charged with attempting to overthrow the Chinese Government, is in reality being persecuted because he has demanded democratic rights for the Chinese people,

C. whereas Wei Jingsheng has already served a sentence of 15 years in prison in the *laogais* (labour reform camps) and the salt mines of Nanpu, following his involvement in the Wall of Democracy movement and his appeals for a more democratic regime in China,

D. shocked that since his re-arrest on 1 April 1994, Wei Jingsheng has been held incommunicado and that his family and lawyers were provided with no information about him until he was charged on 21 November 1995,

1. Condemns the persecution of Wei Jingsheng by the Chinese Government and calls for his immediate release;

2. Insists that the Commission and the Council consider how best to initiate a joint action in accordance with the Treaty on European Union to exert long-term pressure on China to respect human rights and considers that trade and investment policies must be considered as means of such pressure;

3. Calls for the release of all prisoners of conscience and the immediate closure of the *laogais*;

4. Instructs its Delegation for Relations with the People's Republic of China to raise the problem of human rights there with the Chinese authorities;

5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the parliaments of the Member States and the Government and National People's Congress of China.

(b) B4-1499, 1516, 1522, 1544 and 1556/95

Resolution on the selection of the Panchen Lama and religious freedom in Tibet

The European Parliament,

A. deploring generally the Chinese authorities' relentless persecution of Tibetan Buddhist monks,

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- B. noting that the Government of the People's Republic of China has announced the selection of a new Panchen Lama, attempting to overrule the Dalai Lama's choice of five months ago, thereby disregarding the religious traditions of the Tibetan people and politicizing an issue that has always been a strictly religious matter throughout the history of Tibet,
- C. stressing that this action by the Chinese is liable to create serious unrest in Tibetan society,
- D. recalling that on 14 May 1995 the Dalai Lama, freely exercising the powers he enjoys by virtue of his spiritual role, had already recognized Gedhun Choekyi Nyima as being the new reincarnation of the Panchen Lama,
- E. whereas Gedhun Choekyi Nyima and his parents, as well as the monk who identified him as the Panchen Lama, have not been seen in public since July 1995,
- F. expressing its dismay that the actions of the Chinese authorities represent a further erosion of the principle of freedom of religion,
- G. having regard to the riots which followed the government's decision and the ruthlessness with which they were quelled,
1. Condemns China's intervention in the nomination of the candidate for the title of Panchen Lama, which is strictly a religious matter, as well as the forced appointment of the candidate imposed by the Chinese authorities;
 2. Urges the Chinese authorities to respect the wishes of the Tibetan people by accepting the Panchen Lama as recognized by the Dalai Lama;
 3. Requests the Government of the People's Republic of China immediately to allow Union diplomats to meet Gedhun Choekyi Nyima and his parents, as well as the monk mentioned above, in order to ensure that they are safe;
 4. Calls on the Chinese authorities to undertake not to pressure or intimidate Gedhun Choekyi Nyima and his family in any way, particularly as regards his freedom to perform his spiritual role as the Panchen Lama and thus his free access to the education necessary for this role;
 5. Calls on the Chinese authorities to accord full freedom of movement and worship to Tibetan monks, and to respect the Tashi Lumpo monastery, the historical seat of the Panchen Lama;
 6. Calls on the representatives of the Council and the Commission to exert strong diplomatic or other pressure on the Chinese authorities to put an end to their unacceptable treatment of the Tibetan people;
 7. Believes that the final decision to proceed with the European Union's Panam project in Tibet should not be taken until such time as the requests in this resolution are met;
 8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments of the Member States, the Dalai Lama, the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Tibetan Government in exile.

(c) **B4-1496, 1519, 1539, 1549 and 1561/95**

Resolution on the application of social clauses within the framework of the multiannual programme for generalized tariff preferences *inter alia* with regard to Pakistan and Myanmar (Burma)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Regulation (EC) No 3281/94 of 19 December 1994 applying a four-year scheme of generalized tariff preferences (1995 to 1998) in respect of certain industrial products originating in developing countries ⁽¹⁾;

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 348, 31.12.1994, p. 1.