

Thursday, 14 September 1989

PART II

Texts adopted by Parliament

1. Human Rights

(a) Joint resolution replacing Docs. B 3-103, 115 and 145/89

RESOLUTION

on the situation in China

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to its previous resolutions on the situation in China, especially the resolution of 25 May 1989 ⁽¹⁾ urging the Chinese Government to engage in dialogue with the students and demonstrators,
 - B. having regard to the extreme violence used by the Chinese troops on 3 and 4 June 1989 to expel the peaceful demonstrators from Tiananmen Square in Beijing and from the central areas of most of the large cities of China,
 - C. having regard to the brutal arrests, trials and precipitate executions of presumed leaders of the protest movement, and to the continued persecution of these who took part in the peaceful demonstrations,
 - D. having regard to the resolution adopted by the UN subcommittee on human rights on the situation in China,
 - E. having regard to the report by Amnesty International, according to which at least 1 300 people were killed on 3 and 4 June, while more than 100 000 arrests and thousands of executions have taken place since then,
 - F. highlighting the strong bonds of friendship between itself and the Chinese people and the hopes and support it has expressed in the past for the policy of reform initiated in China, which it sees as vital for strengthening relations with China,
 - G. having regard to the prompt action of the Commission in freezing all new cooperation projects with China under the 1985 cooperation agreement,
 - H. having regard to the declaration of the Twelve of 6 June 1989 and the declaration of the European Council in Madrid of 27 June 1989 deploring the executions and the repression and announcing measures against China,
- 1. Condemns the brutal liquidation of the students and workers who were demanding democratic reforms;
 - 2. Stresses that human rights in any country cannot be reduced to a merely internal matter, since they are a universal concern;
 - 3. Calls on the Chinese Government to call an immediate halt to the executions;

⁽¹⁾ Part II, Item 1 (a) of the minutes of that sitting.

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4. Calls on the Chinese authorities to put an end to the arbitrary arrests, torture and ill-treatment of political prisoners and to release them as soon as possible;
5. Calls on them further, to respect human rights and take account of the people's deeply-felt aspirations to freedom and democracy;
6. Calls for an immediate withdrawal of the ban on foreign newspapers and magazines and the restrictions imposed on the press and international radio and television reporting;
7. Recalls the declarations of Vice-President Wang Zhen concerning the eradication of the bourgeois opposition and the crushing of the counter-revolutionaries, which suggest that the repression may continue, and calls on the Twelve, should this be the case, to consider severe restrictions on relations with China, especially in the areas of aid, trade and investment;
8. Expresses its comprehension of the justified anxieties of the inhabitants of Hong Kong and Macao, and calls on the Community to take steps to ensure their safety;
9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the Foreign Ministers meeting in European Political Cooperation, the UN Secretary-General and the President of the People's Republic of China.

(b) Joint resolution replacing Docs. B 3-57 and 134/89

RESOLUTION

on the situation of the 'Boat People'

The European Parliament,

- A. gravely concerned by the continued sufferings of the Boat People;
 - B. whereas the proximity of the territory of Hong Kong has made it the preferred country of first asylum for some 150 000 Vietnamese since 1975;
 - C. recognizing the great difficulties of the Government and people of Hong Kong in providing refuge for the 55 000 Boat People at present there;
 - D. deploring the bad conditions in which these people live in detention;
 - E. rejecting the forcible repatriation of people who have taken great risks to escape from Communist oppression in Vietnam;
 - F. appalled by the murder of Boat People by pirates;
 - G. recognizing the special responsibility of the democratic countries with historic links with Vietnam and Vietnamese opposition to Communism;
1. Calls on the British Government to abandon forthwith any plans for the forcible repatriation of Boat People and to stop treating them as illegal immigrants,