

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr KLEPSCH, Mr VERGEER, Mr LANGES, Mr LIGIOS

on behalf of the Group of the European People's Party  
(Christian-Democratic Group)

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on El Salvador

The European Parliament,

- concerned at the situation in El Salvador, where a near civil war is accompanied by an increasing refugee problem and a profound economic crisis,
- moved by the plight of the people of El Salvador, where over 20,000 persons die violent deaths each year, families are forcibly separated and many thousands suffer violations of human rights, terror and violence,
- whereas various left-wing and right-wing groups are continually raising the level of violence,
- concerned to note that this armed conflict is being further exacerbated by military aid from outside the country to the warring parties,
- convinced that the people of El Salvador desire nothing more fervently than to live in peace,
- whereas peace can come to El Salvador only through a political and democratic solution giving its people the full right to decide their future,
- whereas a political solution must culminate in free fair elections by secret ballot under international supervision in which candidates from all the democratic parties in the country may take part without fear for life or limb,
- whereas conciliation between the Junta and the government on the one hand and the opposition FDR on the other could help produce a political solution,
- convinced that the structural reforms introduced by President Duarte (land reform, State involvement in banks and foreign trade) are substantially improving the chances for the required general social reforms,
- whereas the situation in El Salvador has to be seen in the context of the increasingly anti-democratic and anti-pluralistic trends in Nicaragua under the Sandinistas, and the increasingly repressive right-wing dictatorship in Guatemala,
- whereas the United States plays a key role in Central America, and especially in El Salvador,

1. Calls on the parties concerned to cease the hostilities in El Salvador, in order to bring an end to the suffering of its people, and to pave the way for a lasting political and democratic solution based on the principle of self-determination;
2. Condemns the violation of human rights, terrorism and violence in all forms, regardless of who is responsible, and demands that they cease forthwith;
3. Recommends that the process of pacification and democratization should culminate in free and fair elections by secret ballot under international supervision, in which all democratic parties and movements may stand without hindrance;
4. Supports all efforts to facilitate negotiations between the Junta and the government on the one hand and the opposition FDR on the other, and would encourage all efforts to this end, for example by the Catholic Church in El Salvador by Central American states such as Venezuela, Costa Rica, Panama and Mexico;
5. Expects the United States to lend its unswerving support for a political solution in El Salvador, allowing civilian elements to make the progress they are seeking towards democracy and to prevent the consolidation of anti-democratic and anti-pluralistic trends as in its neighbour countries Nicaragua and Guatemala;
6. Welcomes and supports the structural reforms introduced by President Duarte (land reform, government involvement in banks and foreign trade) and endorses a scheme under consideration by President Reagan and Federal Chancellor Schmidt for economic development aid for Central America, especially for El Salvador (mini-Marshall Plan);
7. Proposes that the European Community make available emergency aid of 5 m EUA from the Community's disaster relief fund, to be placed at the disposal of international humanitarian bodies such as the Red Cross or church relief organizations for the specific purpose of relieving the distress of the refugees and the victims of violence.
8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council and the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation.