



EURONEST PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE EURONEST
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ПАРЛАМЕНТСКАЯ АССАМБЛЕЯ ЕВРОНЕСТ

Plenary session

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RESOLUTION

on deterioration of the human rights situation in the regions of Transnistria, Abkhazia, Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia, Crimea and parts of Donetsk and Luhansk Oblast

EURONEST PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY – RESOLUTION

on deterioration of the human rights situation in the regions of Transnistria, Abkhazia, Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia, Crimea and parts of Donetsk and Luhansk Oblast

The Euronest Parliamentary Assembly,

- having regards to its previous resolutions on future of democracy, regional security, and the role of civil society
 - having regard to the previous resolutions of the European Parliament on the European Neighbourhood Policy, and in particular to its resolution of 21 January 2016 on the Association Agreements and the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Areas with Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, its resolution of 5 October 2017 and 4 February 2016 on the human rights situation in Crimea and its resolution of 16 March 2017 on the Ukrainian prisoners in Russia and the situation in Crimea,
 - having regard to the EU Annual Report on Human Rights and Democracy in the World in 2016,
 - having regard to the report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of 25 September 2017 on the ‘Situation of human rights in the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol (Ukraine)’,
 - having regard to the Global Strategy for the European Union’s Foreign and Security Policy of June 2016
 - having regard to international humanitarian law and, in particular, to its provisions on occupied territories and the treatment and protection of civilians,
 - having regard to Art. 9.3 of the Rules of procedure
- A. whereas the situation marked by deterioration of the human rights situation in the regions of Transnistria, Abkhazia, Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia, Crimea and parts of Donetsk and Luhansk Oblast, is alerting,
- B. whereas people living on these territories have limited or no access to the justice system; whereas the legitimate authorities have no access to those areas to administer justice,
- C. whereas school children residing on those territories are often denied the right to receive education in native language
- D. whereas the so-called authorities on the ground manifest rather very limited will to effectively allow human rights and basic freedoms be enjoyed by local population,
- E. whereas the Russian Federation bears the responsibility for the human rights violation, as it is directly or indirectly influencing the developments in the conflict areas by

providing financial, military and economic assistance to the so-called authorities on the ground,

- F. whereas people living in those conflict areas are under constant threat of a military conflict or further escalation,
1. Strongly condemns the persecution and intimidation of those who oppose the pro-Russian regime which helps to establish so-called “local authorities” in the conflict areas;
 2. Deplores that the citizens from those regions cannot freely cross the occupation lines and in many cases to return to their homes; whereas in some instances the occupation line so-called border goes through the villages and the property of one family;
 3. Stands firm in supporting people living in those conflict areas and recalls that the DCFTA can be extended to these conflict areas given that the so-called authorities abide with the laws of the legitimate central government; confirms that the visa free regime in these countries is extended to all citizens, including to the ones living in the conflict areas, provided that the requirements with regards to the biometric passports are implemented;
 4. Calls on the European Commission to support projects and exchanges aimed at improving people-to-people contacts, as well as those promoting peace-building, conflict resolution, reconciliation and intercultural dialogue;
 5. Calls for establishing the monitoring mission which could monitor the human rights situation in the conflict areas as well as calls upon the international human rights observers, including specialised structures of the UN, OSCE and Council of Europe, to explore ways to obtain access to those territories;
 6. Strongly condemns the prevailing practice of transferring detainees to distant regions of Russia, as this severely hinders their communication with their families and the ability of human rights organisations to monitor their wellbeing; calls on the EEAS and the EU Delegation in Russia to closely follow the ongoing trials and to pay attention to the treatment of those detained; expresses particular concern over reports of the use of punitive psychiatric treatments; expects the EU Delegation, the EEAS and Member States’ embassies to closely follow these proceedings and to seek access to those detained before, during and after their trials;
 7. Calls upon the Russian Federation, which has direct or indirect influence on the so-called “local authorities” in the conflict areas, to ensure the human rights, which is its obligation under the international humanitarian law;
 8. Calls on the European Court of Human Rights to consider all applications for redress from these conflict areas as well as their detainees who were taken to Russia with the

highest priority possible, as the so called judicial system in the conflict areas, as well as in Russia, does not provide legal remedies in these cases;

9. Supports the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders and reiterates its condemnation of the illegal annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol by the Russian Federation, as well as the ongoing occupation of Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia by Russia;
10. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the President of the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission, the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the European External Action Service, and the governments and parliaments of the Member States and of the Eastern Partnership countries.