Amendment 7 Sofia Sakorafa, Nikolaos Chountis on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

Report A8-0341/2018

Ivo Vajgl

2018 Report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2018/2145(INI))

Motion for a resolution Horizontal amendment

Motion for a resolution Amendment

- Replace 'Macedonia(n)' with 'the country('s)' throughout the text;

Or. en

Amendment 8 Sofia Sakorafa on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

Report A8-0341/2018

Ivo Vajgl

2018 Report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2018/2145(INI))

Motion for a resolution Recital A a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Aa. whereas during recent years, the country has experienced one of its worst political crises; whereas the divisive political mentality, the deep mutual mistrust, harsh rhetoric, lack of compromise and collapse of the dialogue between the parties have given rise to a protracted political crisis which has further undermined reforms and accession preparations, as well as citizens' confidence in public institutions, and led to serious backsliding in several key areas of the EU accession process; whereas the recent political crisis has illustrated the lack of an effective system of checks and balances in the country's institutions and the need to increase transparency and public accountability;

Or. en

Amendment 9 Sofia Sakorafa, Nikolaos Chountis on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

Report A8-0341/2018

Ivo Vajgl

2018 Report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2018/2145(INI))

Motion for a resolution Recital I

Motion for a resolution

I. whereas air pollution is a major problem in *Macedonian* cities and according to the latest study by the Finnish Meteorological Institute and the *Macedonian* Institute of Public Health, Skopje and Tetovo have the highest concentration of fine particles in the air (PM_{2.5}) out of all European cities;

Amendment

I. whereas air pollution is a major problem in *the country*'s cities and according to the latest study by the Finnish Meteorological Institute and the *country*'s Institute of Public Health, Skopje and Tetovo have the highest concentration of fine particles in the air (PM_{2.5}) out of all European cities;

Or. en

Amendment 10 Sofia Sakorafa on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

Report A8-0341/2018

Ivo Vajgl

2018 Report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2018/2145(INI))

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 3

Motion for a resolution

3. Welcomes the Prespa Agreement of 17 June 2018 between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and commends both sides for their significant efforts to reach a mutually satisfactory solution to the name issue; welcomes its ratification by the Parliament of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on 20 June and 5 July 2018; considers that it is in the interests of the citizens of the country that all political actors and civil society act in a constructive manner and assume their historic responsibilities; urges the parties to prioritise the interests of their country over party-political interests, to duly inform their citizens of the contents and implications of the agreement and to diligently complete all internal procedures for the ratification and implementation of this strategically important agreement, bringing an end to a protracted geopolitical limbo and setting a good example for peace and stability in the region; underlines the importance of the 30 September 2018 referendum concerning the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia's integration into the EU and NATO:

Amendment

Takes note of the Prespa 3. Agreement of 17 June 2018 between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on the name issue and its ratification by the Parliament of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on 20 June and 5 July 2018; urges the parties to prioritise the interests of their country over party-political interests, to duly inform their citizens of the contents and implications of the agreement and to refrain from raising issues intended to distract them from the actual substance of the agreement and the implications thereof; calls on both parties to hold a referendum on the agreement in order to give voters the right to ratify or reject it;

Or. en

Amendment 11

Stelios Kouloglou, Dimitrios Papadimoulis, Kostadinka Kuneva on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

Report A8-0341/2018

Ivo Vajgl

2018 Report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2018/2145(INI))

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 3

Motion for a resolution

3. Welcomes the Prespa Agreement of 17 June 2018 between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and commends both sides for their significant efforts to reach a mutually satisfactory solution to the name issue; welcomes its ratification by the Parliament of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on 20 June and 5 July 2018; considers that it is in the interests of the citizens of the country that all political actors and civil society act in a constructive manner and assume their historic responsibilities; urges the parties to prioritise the interests of their country over party-political interests, to duly inform their citizens of the contents and implications of the agreement and to diligently complete all internal procedures for the ratification and implementation of this strategically important agreement, bringing an end to a protracted geopolitical limbo and setting a good example for peace and stability in the region; underlines the importance of the 30 September 2018 referendum concerning the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia's integration into the EU and NATO;

Amendment

Welcomes the Prespa Agreement of 3. 17 June 2018 between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and commends both sides for their significant efforts to reach a mutually satisfactory solution to the name issue; welcomes its ratification by the Parliament of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on 20 June and 5 July 2018; considers that it is in the interests of the citizens of the country that all political actors and civil society act in a constructive manner and assume their historic responsibilities; urges the parties to prioritise the interests of their people and their country over party-political interests, to duly inform their citizens of the contents and implications of the agreement and to diligently complete all internal procedures for the ratification and implementation of this strategically important agreement, bringing an end to a protracted geopolitical limbo and setting a good example for peace and stability in the region; underlines that the name issue must be considered as having been resolved upon the entry into force of the Prespa Agreement; stresses that good neighbourly relations and regional cooperation are essential elements for peace and people's prosperity in the region;

Amendment 12 Sofia Sakorafa, Nikolaos Chountis on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

Report A8-0341/2018

Ivo Vajgl

2018 Report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2018/2145(INI))

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 4

Motion for a resolution

4. Takes note of the result of the 30 September 2018 referendum; stresses the need for further support to the Euro-Atlantic future of the country and for the implementation of the Prespa Agreement of 17 June 2018; encourages the government in Skopje to undertake all necessary and possible steps in order to honour the provisions of the Prespa Agreement, which opens the door to EU and NATO accession negotiations;

Amendment

4. Takes note of the *low participation* rate in the referendum of 30 September 2018 and considers that this reflects the fact that a very important segment of the country approached the agreement with scepticism;

Or. en

Amendment 13

$Stelios\ Kouloglou,\ Dimitrios\ Papadimoulis,\ Kostadinka\ Kuneva$

on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

Report A8-0341/2018

Ivo Vajgl

2018 Report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2018/2145(INI))

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 4

Motion for a resolution

4. Takes note of the result of the 30 September 2018 referendum; stresses the need for *further support to* the *Euro-Atlantic future of the country and for the* implementation of the Prespa Agreement of 17 June 2018; encourages the government in Skopje to undertake all necessary and possible steps in order to honour the provisions of the Prespa Agreement, *which opens the door to EU and NATO accession negotiations*;

Amendment

4. Takes note of the result of the 30 September 2018 referendum; stresses the need for the implementation of the Prespa Agreement of 17 June 2018; encourages the government in Skopje to undertake all necessary and possible steps in order to honour the provisions of the Prespa Agreement;

Or. en

Amendment 14 Sofia Sakorafa on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

Report A8-0341/2018

Ivo Vajgl

2018 Report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2018/2145(INI))

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 6

Motion for a resolution

6. Recalls that the country has already achieved a high level of alignment with the acquis; regrets the fact, nevertheless, that some of this legislation has not yet been implemented; takes note of the improvement in alignment with EU declarations and Council decisions on the Common Foreign and Security Policy and stresses the importance of progressively reaching full alignment, which is a prerequisite for the Euro-Atlantic future of the country;

Amendment

6. Recalls that the country has already achieved a *relatively good* level of alignment with the acquis; regrets the fact, nevertheless, that some of this legislation has not yet been implemented; *notes that* reaching full alignment is a prerequisite for the *European* future of the country;

Or. en

Amendment 15 Sofia Sakorafa on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

Report A8-0341/2018

Ivo Vajgl

2018 Report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2018/2145(INI))

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9

Motion for a resolution

9. Fully endorses the Commission's recommendation and ensuing Council decision setting June 2019 as a date for opening accession negotiations in recognition of the encouraging reform efforts; considers that a swift opening of the screening process and accession talks will sustain and deepen the reform momentum; considers that the opening of negotiations would provide further incentives for democratisation and enhance scrutiny and accountability;

Amendment

9. Notes the Commission's recommendation and ensuing Council decision setting June 2019 as a date for opening accession negotiations, provided that the country maintains and deepens the current reform momentum by delivering further tangible and lasting results, and that full and constructive implementation of all required conditions has been achieved, including reforms on the Urgent Reform Priorities in justice, public administration and the fight against corruption and organised crime;

Or. en

Amendment 16 Sofia Sakorafa, Nikolaos Chountis on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

Report A8-0341/2018

Ivo Vajgl

2018 Report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2018/2145(INI))

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 10

Motion for a resolution Amendment

10. Welcomes the formal invitation of deleted 11 July 2018 from NATO to the country to begin the membership negotiations to join the organisation;

Or. en

Amendment 17 Sofia Sakorafa, Nikolaos Chountis on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

Report A8-0341/2018

deleted

Ivo Vajgl

2018 Report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2018/2145(INI))

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 11

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

11. Considers that the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia's membership of NATO could contribute to achieving greater security and political stability in south-east Europe; calls on all EU Member States which are NATO members to actively support the country's accession to NATO;

Or. en

Amendment 18 Sofia Sakorafa, Nikolaos Chountis on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

Report A8-0341/2018

Ivo Vajgl

2018 Report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2018/2145(INI))

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 49

Motion for a resolution

49. Underlines the crucial role of independent media for a democratic and enabling environment; notes modest improvements in the media environment and conditions for independent reporting; calls for initiatives to create a climate that is favourable to the professional conduct of all media stakeholders, free from any internal and external influences, as well as to investigative journalism; welcomes the termination of state-sponsored advertising in the media based on political favouritism as an important measure to foster a level playing field in the sector and calls for further safeguards against politicisation of the media; stresses the need to strengthen the independence and capacity of the media regulator and the public service broadcaster; calls for measures to increase the protection of the labour and social rights of journalists and to ensure that there is no impunity in cases of violence, abuse or threats against journalists, which would also contribute to minimising the prevalent self-censorship in the media;

Amendment

49. Underlines the crucial role of independent media for a democratic and enabling environment; notes modest improvements in the media environment and conditions for independent reporting; remains concerned over freedom of expression and the media, the use of hate speech and the cases of intimidation, selfcensorship and political interference; regrets, in this context, that in the index compiled by Reporters Without Borders, the country has been ranked lowest among the countries of Europe and the Balkans, falling from 34th place in 2009 to 109th in 2018, while, according to Freedom House's 2017 report on the country's Press Freedom, the country's status remains 'Not Free'; calls for initiatives to create a climate that is favourable to the professional conduct of all media stakeholders, free from any internal and external influences, as well as to investigative journalism; welcomes the termination of state-sponsored advertising in the media based on political favouritism as an important measure to foster a level playing field in the sector and calls for further safeguards against politicisation of the media; stresses the need to strengthen the independence and capacity of the media regulator and the public service

broadcaster; calls for measures to increase the protection of the labour and social rights of journalists and to ensure that there is no impunity in cases of violence, abuse or threats against journalists, which would also contribute to minimising the prevalent self-censorship in the media;

Or. en