



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Plenary sitting

15.4.2014

B7-0436/2014

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statement by the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

pursuant to Rule 110(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on Russian pressure on Eastern Partnership countries and in particular the destabilisation of eastern Ukraine
(2014/2699(RSP))

**Charles Tannock, Ryszard Antoni Legutko, Tomasz Piotr Poręba,
Paweł Robert Kowal, Ryszard Czarnecki, Marek Henryk Migalski,
Adam Bielan, Ruža Tomašić, Roberts Zīle, Konrad Szymański,
Valdemar Tomaševski**
on behalf of the ECR Group

B7-0436/2014

European Parliament resolution on Russian pressure on Eastern Partnership countries and in particular the destabilisation of eastern Ukraine (2014/2699(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the conclusions of the Vilnius Summit held on 28 and 29 November 2013,
 - having regard to its previous resolutions on the European Neighbourhood Policy, on the Eastern Partnership (EaP) and on Ukraine, with particular reference to those of 27 February 2014 on the situation in Ukraine¹ and of 13 March 2014 on the invasion of Ukraine by Russia²,
 - having regard to the European Council’s conclusions of 20 March 2014 on Ukraine,
 - having regard to the signing of the political parts of the Association Agreement between the EU and Ukraine on 21 March 2014,
 - having regard to the joint statement made by the G7 leaders in The Hague on 24 March 2014,
 - having regard to the statement issued by the NATO-Ukraine Commission on 1 April 2014,
 - having regard to the fact that Georgia and Moldova have initialled and have the prospect of signing their Association Agreements with the European Union; having regard in particular to the new, enriched character of association, offering a broad and deep relationship with European partners, and therefore going well beyond merely economic benefits towards strong political and societal relations,
 - having regard to the resolution of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe of 9 April 2014 on ‘recent developments in Ukraine: threats to the functioning of democratic institutions’,
 - having regard to Rule 110(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas Association Agreements, with related Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreements (DCFTAs), constitute a good framework for deepening relations by enhancing political association, socio-economic integration and legal approximation with the EU, and for developing cultural relations;
- B. whereas the Russian authorities exert political, economic and military pressure on countries whose economy depends largely or entirely on their cooperation with the

¹ Texts adopted, P7_TA(2014)0170.

² Texts adopted, P7_TA(2014)0248.

Russian Federation;

- C. whereas such types of economic pressure plainly indicate the Kremlin's geopolitical plans to reduce the independence and sovereignty of its neighbours and rebuild Russia's sphere of unique influence lost after the collapse of the Soviet Union;
- D. whereas the Russian invasion and subsequent annexation of Crimea is a clear violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, as well as of international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, at least three Ukrainian-Russian agreements on bilateral relations from 1997, the Budapest Memorandum of 1994 and the main acts of the OSCE;
- E. whereas in several cities in eastern Ukraine pro-Russian activists have announced the establishment of People's Republics and preparations for the holding of 'Crimea-like' referendums on 11 May 2014 to decide on self-determination for the eastern regions of Ukraine;
- F. whereas pro-Russian activists are continuing to attack official buildings in east Ukraine, ignoring the deadline set by the Government of Ukraine for freeing seized buildings;
- G. whereas the Russian propaganda machine is still promoting hate speech and inciting violence by creating a false threat in Ukraine to justify its illegal actions in the country;
- H. whereas the sanctions imposed by the European Union and the United States on a number of Russian officials have not produced any effects;
- I. whereas Eastern Partnership countries have the full sovereign right and freedom to build relations, as equal partners, with partners of their choice, in line with the Helsinki Accords;
- J. whereas Russia is still occupying the Georgian regions of Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, in violation of the fundamental norms and principles of international law; whereas ethnic cleansing and forcible demographic changes have taken place in the areas under the effective control of the occupying force, which bears the responsibility for human rights violations in these areas;
- K. whereas the process of 'borderisation' has increased rapidly, with the area of occupied territory expanding by several hundred metres at the expense of Georgian territory; whereas violations of Georgian airspace by Russian military aircraft have taken place at the same time;
- L. whereas Russia is exerting increasing pressure on Moldovan politicians, with alleged attempts to bribe some Pro-European Coalition members of parliament;
- M. whereas, following the annexation of Crimea, the breakaway province of Transnistria in Moldova has asked to join Russia, triggering concerns over the region's future stability;
- 1. Welcomes the signing of the political parts of the Association Agreement between the EU and Ukraine on 21 March 2014;

2. Underlines the importance of the signing and rapid implementation of the Association Agreements, including DCFTA agreements, with Georgia and Moldova before the end of the current term of the European Parliament and of the Commission and of starting their provisional application as soon as possible;
3. Condemns once again Russia's violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and calls on Russia immediately to stop any violence or acts directed against Ukraine, and to cease its support for any pro-Russian movements and forces in the eastern part of the country;
4. Calls on Russia to halt its plan to destabilise the region and use the chaos as an excuse to invade;
5. Calls on the EU institutions and Member States to stop the 'waiting game' and to take appropriate measures against Russia in order to avoid a serious international crisis;
6. Notes the right of the EaP countries to use all means, in accordance with the rule of law, to restore public order and protect the proper functioning of the country;
7. Expresses its solidarity with the Ukrainian nation and fully respects the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine; expresses its full support for the interim Ukrainian Government and firmly rejects any Russian statements that it is illegitimate;
8. Reiterates that any Association Agreement proposed by the EU is a matter of strictly bilateral concern between the two parties, and very firmly rejects any proposal to associate a third party in the process;
9. Calls for the rapid liberalisation of the EU visa regime, which would be the best way to enhance people-to-people contacts and develop relations between the societies of the EU and of Eastern Partnership countries and which will therefore become an important factor in closer political and economic integration;
10. Calls once again on the EU institutions and Member States to assume a clear position on the border tensions between Georgia and Russia; calls on the Russian Federation to cease the violations of Georgian airspace and maritime zones, and strongly condemns the 'borderisation' process in Abkhazia and the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, which has led to the expansion of the area of occupied territories at the expense of Georgia;
11. Expresses its full support for Moldova's territorial integrity and warns Russia against repeating the Ukrainian Crimean scenario in Moldova;
12. Underlines the importance of the EaP countries developing their energy strategies in line with European Energy Community obligations; calls for the continuation of gas and electricity market reforms;
13. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the European External Action Service (EEAS), the Council, the Commission, the Member States, the governments and parliaments of the Eastern Partnership

countries, the Government and Parliament of the Russian Federation and the Parliamentary Assemblies of the Council of Europe and the OSCE.