

SUMMARY

**REGIONS:**

**AFRICA**

**Ethiopia**

- ▶ Declaration of the Presidency on behalf of the EU on the release of the members of opposition and others in Ethiopia (20/07/2007)

**Democratic Republic of Congo**

- ▶ Declaration of the Presidency on behalf of the EU on the situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (20/07/2007)

**Libya**

- ▶ EU Presidency Statement on the case of the Bulgarian medics (18/07/2007)

**AMERICAS**

**ASIA**

**EUROPE (OUTSIDE OF UE ) AND CIS**

**Nagorco-Karabakh**

- ▶ Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on "presidential elections" in Nagorno-Karabakh on 19 July 2007 (20/07/2007)

**MAGHREB AND MIDDLE EAST**

**THEMATIC :**

**FINANCIAL PERSPECTIVES**

**JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS**

**EXTERNAL RELATIONS & DEVELOPMENT-RELATED ISSUES**

**EU / UN REFORM**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Dick Marty's report on CIA activities in Europe**

- ▶ A mixed reception for Dick Marty's report on CIA activities in Europe (17/07/2007)

**Litvinenko**

- ▶ Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the EU on the Litvinenko case (18/07/2007)

## **IMPORTANT COMING MEETINGS**

### **EU - THIRD COUNTRY MEETINGS**

### **EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT MEETINGS**

#### **Committee on Development**

- August, 27, 2007

#### **Committee on Foreign Affairs**

- September , 3, 2007 Strasbourg

#### **Subcommittee on Human Rights**

- August, 27, 2007

#### **Subcommittee on security and defence**

- September, 11, 2007

#### **Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and home affairs**

- August, 27, 2007

#### **Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality**

- September, 11, 2007

#### **Committee on budgetary control**

- September, 11,12, 2007

### **CONFERENCES / EVENTS**

**REGIONS:**

**AFRICA**

**Ethiopia**

- ▶ **Declaration of the Presidency on behalf of the EU on the release of the members of opposition and others in Ethiopia (20/07/2007)**

The EU welcomes the release of the members of the opposition following the pardon granted to those sentenced in relation to the events following the May 2005 elections. The EU congratulates all that have worked to achieve this outcome.

The release represents a significant gesture of reconciliation and should mark a new beginning for the country. The EU remains confident that all sides will work together for the future good of Ethiopia and confirms its strong belief that the only manner to resolve differences is through continuous and constructive dialogue.

The EU hopes that all those who have been charged with similar offences and who have chosen to defend themselves will likewise be released or acquitted soon.

The EU stands ready to continue lending any support deemed necessary to the efforts to promote national reconciliation.

[http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias\\_Documentos/Declaracoes\\_PESC/20070720PESCETH.htm](http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias_Documentos/Declaracoes_PESC/20070720PESCETH.htm)

**Democratic Republic of Congo**

- ▶ **Declaration of the Presidency on behalf of the EU on the situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (20/07/2007)**

The European Union expresses its deep concern at the security situation in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly in the Kivus. The presence of foreign and Congolese armed groups, the proliferation of weaponry and the illegal exploitation of natural resources continue to threaten the country's stability.

The European Union calls upon all the parties to find peaceful solutions and abstain from all military action, likely to aggravate the situation, particularly at humanitarian level. It would encourage MONUC to actively support all efforts to that end.

The European Union has reiterated the need to find a lasting solution to the problem of foreign armed groups on Congolese territory. It recognises that relations between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda are crucial to resolving the crisis in the Kivus and would encourage both governments to continue their cooperation in that respect.

Likewise, the European Union stresses the importance of proceeding with the reform of the armed forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC) and, in particular, completing the process of integration of the Congolese army.

The European Union is ready to back the efforts to find political and diplomatic solutions. It confirms its commitment to providing support for the reform of the security sector in the three vital areas: police, army and justice. The European Union welcomes the initial talks between the Congolese authorities and the international community and the intention of organising a round table in Kinshasa in October.

The European Union will continue to follow developments in the DRC closely.

[http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias\\_Documentos/Declaracoes\\_PESC/stat\\_020.htm](http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias_Documentos/Declaracoes_PESC/stat_020.htm)

## Libya

### ► EU Presidency Statement on the case of the Bulgarian medics (18/07/2007)

The EU Presidency welcomes the Libyan Higher Judicial Council's decision to commute to life imprisonment the death sentence previously handed down against the Bulgarian medical staff and hopes that all procedural steps can now be taken swiftly in order to allow their return to Bulgaria without further delay.

The EU Presidency acknowledges the efforts undertaken by many parties to find a solution on the basis of humanitarian solidarity.

The Presidency reiterates its solidarity with the Libyan children infected with the HIV-AIDS virus in Benghazi and confirms the EU's commitment to help provide continuing high level medical treatment in their favour.

The EU Presidency acknowledges the potential of increased EU-Libya co-operation in many areas of common interest in light of a satisfactory resolution of this process and reiterates the EU's commitment to work on the framework of future EU-Libya relations.

[http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias\\_Documentos/Declaracoes\\_PESC/cfsp\\_018.htm](http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias_Documentos/Declaracoes_PESC/cfsp_018.htm)

AMERICAS

ASIA

**Nagorno-Karabakh**

**► Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on "presidential elections" in Nagorno-Karabakh on 19 July 2007 (20/07/2007)**

The EU is aware that "presidential elections" have taken place in Nagorno-Karabakh on 19 July 2007. The EU underlines that it does not recognize the independence of Nagorno-Karabakh. Neither does it recognize the legitimacy of these "presidential elections", which should not have any impact on the peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Furthermore, the EU recalls that refugees and internally-displaced persons should be given the right to a safe, secure and dignified return of their homes in order to fully participate in electoral acts.

The EU reiterates its firm support to the OSCE Minsk-Group and its Co-Chairmen, and their efforts towards a settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. The EU urges the parties concerned to intensify their efforts to find a negotiated solution to the conflict.

[http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias\\_Documentos/Declaracoes\\_PESC/20070719PESC/NAG.htm](http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias_Documentos/Declaracoes_PESC/20070719PESC/NAG.htm)

## THEMATIC :

FINANCIAL PERSPECTIVES

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

EXTERNAL RELATIONS & DEVELOPMENT-RELATED ISSUES

EU / UN REFORM

MISCELLANEOUS

### **Dick Marty's report on CIA activities in Europe**

- ▶ **A mixed reception for Dick Marty's report on CIA activities in Europe (17/07/2007)**

MEPs heard on Tuesday from Council of Europe rapporteur Dick Marty on his report on secret detentions and illegal transfers of prisoners by the CIA in Europe. The European Parliament adopted a report on the same subject in February, and most MEPs at the latest hearing welcomed the similar conclusions reached by both institutions. Others, however, took issue with Mr Marty's refusal to reveal his sources.

Presenting his report to a joint meeting of the Committees on Civil Liberties and Foreign Affairs and the Subcommittee on Human Rights, Mr Marty said that the US government has clearly stated that it has fully respected the sovereignty of European countries during its activities in the "war on terror", and that kidnappings in Europe would not have been possible without the participation of the national intelligence services concerned. He said there was a "wall of silence that confronts us from almost all national governments" and that this silence "continues to mask serious human rights violations."

Mr Marty said that in the cases of Poland and Romania, there were "numerous and coherent pieces of evidence" that secret prisons existed in these countries. He also said that General Nicolo Pollari, head of SISMI, the Italian military intelligence service, had "shamelessly lied" about his cooperation in the rendition of Abu Omar to the EP's temporary committee during an exchange of views in Parliament. He was critical of both the previous and the current Italian governments for blocking a Milanese court's extradition request for CIA agents.

#### **Mixed reception**

Mr Marty's report elicited mixed reactions from MEPs. Claudio Fava (PES, IT), the EP's rapporteur on the subject, noted that the Marty report's conclusions "are ones we mainly support and share," even though he stressed the very different methods and approaches to evidence employed by the two institutions. Jas Gawronski (EPP-ED, IT) was critical, saying that "after two years of work, you are simply coming out in support of what the Washington Post has already reported, without offering any concrete evidence."

The question of why the Council of Europe report refused to name sources was on many MEPs' minds. Jan

Wiersma (PES, NL) said that the EP "has always drawn the line to publish what we can prove, not what we believe," while Roberta Anastase (EPP-ED, RO) asked whether the evidence can at least be made available to the Romanian authorities on a confidential basis, so they can verify them and continue their own investigations.

Mr Marty responded by saying that he was very prudent in his investigation. "There is no information in the report that came from one sole source," without corroborating evidence, he said. Sarah Ludford (ALDE, UK) was supportive, saying that "those who challenge the report have a remedy: put all the documents in the public domain so we can compare evidence."

### **Pointing fingers?**

The most heated discussion centred around two MEPs who were mentioned by name in the Marty report. Ioan Paşcu (PES, RO) demanded to know why Mr Marty had not accepted his offer to appear before the Council of Europe. Earlier this week, Marek Siwiec (PES, PL) announced that he had delivered a legal summons to Mr Marty demanding his name to be withdrawn from the report - something Mr Marty ruled out at a press conference later on Tuesday. At the hearing, Mr Marty emphasised that he is not accusing anyone, only saying that the two were "aware of activities" in their countries. "We are not a tribunal," Mr Marty he said, "my report is a political document, not a formal accusation." Sophia in 't Veld (ALDE, NL) agreed, saying that "democratic governments are accountable on a voluntary basis, not just in court with watertight evidence."

Mr Marty said the report simply aimed to get closer to the truth of what happened, emphasising the "right to truth, but also our duty to the truth." "Are we lawyers for our national governments or defenders of our common European values?" he asked. Civil Liberties Committee Chairman Jean-Marie Cavada (ALDE, FR) agreed, saying "we need to demand clarity and truth from European governments, so that it is not only the American government that ends up telling the truth."

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress\\_page/019-9212-198-07-29-902-20070716IPR09209-17-07-2007-2007-false/default\\_en.htm](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress_page/019-9212-198-07-29-902-20070716IPR09209-17-07-2007-2007-false/default_en.htm)

### **Litvinenko**

- ▶ **Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the EU on the Litvinenko case** (18/07/2007)

The Presidency recalls its statement of 1 June on the murder of Alexander Litvinenko, a grave and reckless crime. The EU expresses its disappointment at Russia's failure to cooperate constructively with the UK authorities. The EU underlines the importance of urgent and constructive cooperation by the Russian Federation on this matter. The EU hopes for a satisfactory solution to this matter, which raises important questions of common interest to EU Member States.

[http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias\\_Documentos/Declaracoes\\_PESC/declaracao\\_by\\_presidency\\_eu\\_litvenko.htm](http://www.eu2007.pt/UE/vEN/Noticias_Documentos/Declaracoes_PESC/declaracao_by_presidency_eu_litvenko.htm)