

Thursday, 23 November 1989

- E. having regard to its unanimously adopted resolution of 8 July 1988 on the catastrophic environmental impact of large-scale deforestation in Sarawak (East Malaysia) ⁽¹⁾, in which it sympathizes with the steps taken by the Penan, Kelabit and Kayan with a view to combating the further destruction of their surroundings and puts forward practical proposals to bring the exploitation of tropical rain forests in Sarawak into line with social and ecological needs,
1. Calls on the Sarawak authorities to release immediately those arrested and to initiate genuine negotiations with the representatives of the indigenous people;
 2. Calls on the International Tropical Timber Organization in its study on Sarawak to take account of the traditional rights of the indigenous population and the effects of timber-felling on their continued existence;
 3. Calls on the Commission to include the problems of Sarawak in its discussions with the Government of Malaysia and implement the resolution adopted by Parliament on 8 July 1988;
 4. Instructs its ASEAN delegation to include this problem on its agenda and to prevail upon the Malaysian Government to seek a peaceful and socially acceptable solution;
 5. Calls on the Foreign Ministers meeting in European Political Cooperation to protest to the Malaysian authorities about these arrests;
 6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Foreign Ministers meeting in European Political Cooperation, the governments of the Member States, the Government of Malaysia and the authorities of Sarawak and the International Tropical Timber Organization.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 235, 12.9.1988, p. 196.

6. Recent events in Central and Eastern Europe

— Doc. B3-599/89/corr.

RESOLUTION

on the recent developments in Central and Eastern Europe

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to recent developments in the GDR, and notably the opening of the Berlin Wall and the border installations between the GDR and the Federal Republic of Germany,
- B. conscious that developments in the GDR form part – and are a result – of changes in Central and Eastern Europe, and notably in Poland and Hungary, changes made possible by the new policy pursued by President Gorbachev and facilitated by the policy of East-West cooperation, in particular within the framework of the CSCE process and disarmament negotiations,
- C. aware that the economic problems of the states of Central and Eastern Europe and the desire for freedom of their inhabitants have played a decisive role in these developments,
- D. aware that the peoples of Central Europe brought about these changes in their countries through the pressure exerted by their non-violent, mass demonstrations,

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- E. having regard to the outcome of the European Council meeting held on 18 November 1989 in Paris on the initiative of President Mitterrand,
- F. whereas the forthcoming Bush/Gorbachev summit will contribute to strengthening world peace, and to consolidating detente between the military alliances and cooperation between peoples,
1. Emphasizes the historic nature of these events in Central and Eastern Europe, brought about by the determination of their peoples to exercise their right to self-determination in a free and democratic manner, with due respect for human rights;
 2. Supports the demand of GDR opposition groups for an end to the Socialist Unity Party's monopoly of power and for free elections;
 3. Stresses that the closer integration of the EEC will create the basis for closer cooperation with the states of Central and Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union and closer ties between the two German states, and that European integration should be seen as a way of overcoming nationalist claims;
 4. Considers that the people of the GDR should be entitled to exercise their right to self-determination, i.e. their right to determine which political and economic system should be developed and which form their state should take, including the possibility of forming part of a unified Germany within a united Europe;
 5. Declares that, in the spirit of the Helsinki Final Act, all the peoples of Europe including the Polish people are entitled, both now and in future, to live in security within their present borders;
 6. Emphatically advocates that the EEC should pursue a policy towards all the states in Central and Eastern Europe which adopt a course of reform so as to incorporate the emergency aid for Poland, Hungary and the GDR within the framework of longer-term financial, economic and environmental cooperation;
 7. Emphasizes that developments in Central and Eastern Europe require a rapid response from the EEC and that the EEC must rapidly draw up a plan for support and cooperation within which framework an offer of institutionalized ties could be made to all countries desiring this kind of association when the time is ripe;
 8. Stresses that a policy to ensure reciprocal security must be pursued in Europe, desires that the summit meeting between Presidents Bush and Gorbachev may make a positive contribution to this and to developments in Central and Eastern Europe and hopes that this summit meeting will contribute to the establishment of an order in Europe based on the principles of freedom, self-determination, security and peace;
 9. Considers that the success of disarmament negotiations at all levels for all categories of weapon systems is important if further progress is to be made in Central and Eastern Europe, and calls therefore for rapid progress in this field and proposes that the resources released through the further reduction in the military threat be used to promote freedom and democracy in Central and Eastern Europe and to combat hunger and further development in the Third World;
 10. Calls on the Council and Commission to report to the Presidents of the two superpowers on the overriding importance that the European Community attaches to the ongoing process of balanced mutual disarmament and to urge them to continue their efforts in this area by making significant progress in conventional and nuclear disarmament and to embark with determination on the process of achieving a definitive ban on chemical and biological weapons,
 11. Stresses its support for the people of Czechoslovakia in the desire for freedom they are at present demonstrating in such an impressive way throughout that country;
 12. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the Foreign Ministers meeting in EPC and the governments of the Member States and of the USA, the USSR, the GDR, Hungary and Poland.