

Thursday, 10 February 1994

## 2. Armenia

**B3-0181, 0186, 0188, 0197 and 0204/94**

### Resolution on the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan

*The European Parliament,*

— having regard to its previous resolutions on the situation in Armenia, especially its resolution of 16 September 1993 on Armenia and Azerbaijan <sup>(1)</sup>,

A. having regard to the continuing conflict between Armenians and Azeris which threatens to involve other countries, which has driven hundreds of thousands of people, both Armenians and Azeris, from their homes, and which has already led to hundreds of deaths and injuries among the civilian population,

B. whereas the Azerbaijani air force has resumed its bombing of civilians, particularly in the town of Stepanakert,

C. whereas the negotiating proposals made by the CSCE have come to nothing and have in particular been rejected by Azerbaijan,

D. whereas there is an urgent need for international humanitarian aid for the populations affected in Armenia and Azerbaijan and a need for the neighbouring countries to permit international humanitarian organizations free access to the region; whereas, in particular, suitable aid should be provided to the Armenian people, who are facing difficult living conditions this winter, owing, in particular, to the energy crisis,

E. whereas Armenia has, since independence, made genuine efforts to construct a constitutional state based on democratic institutions, the free exercise of fundamental freedoms and human rights and has undertaken economic reforms to create the most favourable conditions for the population; whereas these efforts are threatened by the effects of the conflicts,

F. whereas these conflicts are having the same disastrous effects on Azerbaijan and, to a lesser extent, the other countries of the region,

G. recalling the communiqué of 17 January 1994 by the Presidency of the European Union on this matter,

1. Is concerned at the danger of the internationalization of the conflict, and calls on the governments of the countries of the region and other foreign powers to refrain from providing military aid to the belligerents;

2. Calls on all the neighbours of Armenia and Azerbaijan and, in particular, on Turkey, to allow the free passage of goods to both countries;

3. Endorses the declaration of the Presidency which 'requests the opposing parties to display self-control and not inflict further suffering on a civilian population already sorely tried by the war', and 'reaffirms its support for the principle of the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and calls for a peaceful solution to the conflict';

4. Calls on all parties concerned to comply with the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council;

5. Calls on the Union and its Member States to exert pressure on Armenia and Azerbaijan in order to persuade them to seek a peaceful solution to the conflict;

6. Calls on the European Union and its Member States actively to support the political and economic reform process in Armenia via a more effective commitment in favour of the country under the Tacis programme, and calls on the Union to make a similar effort to support economic recovery in the other countries of the region and, in particular, Azerbaijan, which is more particularly affected by the war;

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ C 268, 4.10.1993, p. 136.

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7. Calls, in this connection, for particular attention to be paid to the energy problem;
8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Governments of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Turkey, the authorities of Nagorno-Karabakh and the Secretary-General of the CSCE.

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### 3. Elections in Turkey

**B3-0158, 0160, 0169 and 0209/94**

#### **Resolution on local elections in Turkey in March 1994**

*The European Parliament,*

- A. having regard to its previous resolutions about human rights in Turkey and the situation in the Kurdish populated provinces of the south-east, especially its resolution of 16 September 1993 on the assassination of Mr Mehmet Sincar, Kurdish MP in Turkey, and the situation of the Kurds in Turkey <sup>(1)</sup>,
- B. deeply distressed by the continuation and escalation of the conflict in Kurdistan, which has claimed several thousand victims,
- C. concerned to ensure that at the forthcoming local elections on 27 March 1994 voters in the provinces under emergency rule can cast their votes freely, without fear of intimidation, believing that these elections may be a more significant test of opinion in the south-east than a national election,
- D. convinced that a significant international presence at these elections would create a much greater climate of confidence,
- E. believing that such an international presence during the March Nevroz Kurdish New Year celebrations last year helped to ensure there was no repetition of the mass violence and killing which had taken place the previous year,
- F. having regard to the elections that have already taken place in Turkey, in which there was evidence of Turkey's efforts to make progress towards the stabilization of democracy,
  1. Reiterates firmly its condemnation of the PKK and all other violent Kurdish groups, and reaffirms its commitment to the maintenance of the territorial integrity of the State of Turkey;
  2. Reiterates firmly its condemnation of the violence against civilians practised by elements of the military and security forces;
  3. Believes there can be no military solution to the situation in the south-east and that the 'Kurdish problem' can only be resolved by democratic means in a pluralist Turkey which recognizes the ethnic, cultural and linguistic diversity of its people;
  4. Expresses its profound concern at the large number of activists of the HEP (Workers' Party) as well as Kurdish journalists who have been murdered in mostly unexplained circumstances;
  5. Believes that legitimate non-violent political parties or groups may suffer constraints in mounting an election campaign and that the election arrangements should conform to international standards;

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ C 268, 4.10.1993, p. 144.