

5.10.2020

B9-0309/1

Amendment 1

Angel Dzhambazki

on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0309/2020

Juan Fernando López Aguilar

on behalf of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
Rule of law and fundamental rights in Bulgaria

Motion for a resolution

Recital J

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

J. whereas the Venice Commission and the OSCE ODIHR have found that the Bulgarian electoral code hinders linguistic diversity and the voting rights of citizens living abroad⁵;

Deleted

⁵ Venice Commission and OSCE ODIHR joint opinion on amendments to the Electoral Code in Bulgaria, 19 June 2017, CDL-AD(2017)016.

Or. en

5.10.2020

B9-0309/2

Amendment 2

Angel Dzhambazki

on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0309/2020

Juan Fernando López Aguilar

on behalf of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Rule of law and fundamental rights in Bulgaria

Motion for a resolution

Recital K

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

K. *whereas a number of incidents have been reported in recent years concerning the use of hate speech against minorities, including by government ministers; whereas parliamentary immunity is systematically used to shield members of the Bulgarian National Assembly from accountability for hate speech⁶;*

Deleted

⁶ *Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, report following her visit to Bulgaria from 25 to 29 November 2019, 31 March 2020, p. 33 and p. 38.*

Or. en

5.10.2020

B9-0309/3

Amendment 3

Angel Dzhambazki

on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0309/2020

Juan Fernando López Aguilar

on behalf of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Rule of law and fundamental rights in Bulgaria

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 1

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

1. Deeply regrets the fact that the developments in Bulgaria have led to a significant deterioration in respect for the principles of rule of law, democracy and fundamental rights, including the independence of the judiciary, separation of powers, the fight against corruption and freedom of the media; expresses its solidarity with the people of Bulgaria in their legitimate demands and aspirations for justice, transparency, accountability and democracy;

Deleted

Or. en

5.10.2020

B9-0309/4

Amendment 4

Angel Dzhambazki

on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0309/2020

Juan Fernando López Aguilar

on behalf of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Rule of law and fundamental rights in Bulgaria

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 4

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

4. *Takes note of the adoption at second reading of amendments to the Bulgarian Electoral Code; notes with concern that the Bulgarian Parliament is currently in the process of adopting a new electoral law, while ordinary parliamentary elections have to take place in no later than seven months' time; calls on the Bulgarian authorities to ensure full compliance of the electoral legislation with all the recommendations of the Venice Commission and the OSCE ODIHR, in particular as regards stability of the fundamental elements of electoral law, which should not be open to amendment less than one year before an election;*

4. Calls on the Bulgarian authorities to ensure full compliance of the electoral legislation with all the recommendations of the Venice Commission and the OSCE ODIHR;

Or. en

5.10.2020

B9-0309/5

Amendment 5

Angel Dzhambazki

on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0309/2020

Juan Fernando López Aguilar

on behalf of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Rule of law and fundamental rights in Bulgaria

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 15

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

15. Condemns all instances of hate speech, discrimination and hostility against people of Romani origin, women, LGBTI people and persons belonging to other minority groups, which remains an issue of acute concern; calls on the authorities to respond vigorously to incidents of hate speech, including by high-level politicians, to enhance legal protection against discrimination and hate crimes, and to investigate and prosecute such crimes effectively; welcomes the judicial ban of the annual neo-Nazi ‘Lukov March’ and the opening of an investigation into the organisation behind it – the ‘BNU’; calls on the Bulgarian Government to enhance cooperation with international and local human rights monitors and to take all the necessary measures to safeguard the rights of minorities effectively, in particular the rights to freedom of expression and freedom of association, including through implementation of the relevant judgments of the European Court of Human Rights¹³; calls on Bulgarian authorities and officials to firmly condemn all acts of violence and hate speech against minorities;

Deleted

¹³ Judgments of 19 January 2006, *The United Macedonian Organisation Ilinden and others v. Bulgaria* (application No

AM\1215032EN.docx

PE658.346v01-00

59491/00); 18 October 2011, The United Macedonian Organisation Ilinden and others v. Bulgaria (No 2) (application No 34960/04); 11 January 2018, The United Macedonian Organisation Ilinden and others v. Bulgaria (No 3) (application No 29496/16) and 11 January 2018, Yordan Ivanov and others v. Bulgaria (application No 70502/13).

Or. en

5.10.2020

B9-0309/6

Amendment 6

Angel Dzhambazki

on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0309/2020

Juan Fernando López Aguilar

on behalf of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Rule of law and fundamental rights in Bulgaria

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 16

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

16. Deplores the climate of hostility against people of Romani origin in some populated communities, particularly against those who had to leave their homes following rallies targeting their communities in several localities; deplores the mobbing and violent evictions of Roma people in the Voyvodinovo area; calls on the authorities to urgently address the situation of the persons affected; believes that resolute measures to improve the general housing situation of people of Romani origin should continue; believes that it is necessary to fully eradicate the educational segregation of children of Romani origin; calls on the authorities to put a stop to hate speech and racial discrimination against people from the Romani minority in the response to COVID-19, and to halt police operations targeting Romani neighbourhoods during the pandemic;

Deleted

Or. en

5.10.2020

B9-0309/7

Amendment 7

Angel Dzhambazki

on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0309/2020

Juan Fernando López Aguilar

on behalf of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Rule of law and fundamental rights in Bulgaria

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 17

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

17. Takes note of the ruling of the Constitutional Court of 27 July 2018 regarding the incompliance of the Istanbul Convention with the Constitution of Bulgaria; ***regrets the fact that this decision prevents Bulgaria from ratifying the Convention; is deeply concerned by the persistent negative and misrepresentative public discourse regarding the Convention, which has been shaped by a widespread disinformation and smear campaign following negative coverage on the topic by several media outlets with alleged links to government and opposition parties, made all the more worrisome by the participation of politicians and political parties represented in the Bulgarian Parliament; is concerned that the persistent negative attitude towards the Convention further contributes to the stigmatisation of vulnerable groups at risk of gender-based violence, whose situation has been particularly exacerbated by the COVID-19 and lockdown measures throughout Europe, including Bulgaria, and further emboldens and inculcates a feeling of impunity among the perpetrators of gender-based crimes; regrets the fact that recent changes to the Criminal Code which introduced stricter penalties for gender-based violence have proven***

17. Takes note of the ruling of the Constitutional Court of 27 July 2018 regarding the incompliance of the Istanbul Convention with the Constitution of Bulgaria;

insufficient to address the complexity of the issue and above all to prevent it; calls on the Bulgarian authorities, therefore, to enhance the prevention and fight against domestic violence, to do what is necessary to allow for the ratification of the Istanbul Convention, and to introduce as many elements from the Convention which are in line with its constitutional order while seeking a broader solution for the remaining elements, as well as increasing the number of shelters and other social services needed to provide support for the victims of domestic violence;

Or. en

5.10.2020

B9-0309/8

Amendment 8

Angel Dzhambazki

on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0309/2020

Juan Fernando López Aguilar

on behalf of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Rule of law and fundamental rights in Bulgaria

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 18

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

18. Considers it necessary to eliminate discrimination against persons on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity, both in law and in practice in all spheres; calls on the Bulgarian authorities to amend the Protection against Discrimination Act to explicitly include gender identity as grounds for discrimination; calls on the Bulgarian authorities to amend the current Criminal Code to encompass hate crimes and hate speech on grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics; calls on the Bulgarian authorities to implement the relevant case law of the Court of Justice and the European Court of Human Rights and, in that context, to address the situation of same-sex spouses and parents with a view to ensuring their enjoyment of the right to non-discrimination in law and in fact, and to establish an appropriate legal framework that provides equal rights for all couples;

Deleted

Or. en

5.10.2020

B9-0309/9

Amendment 9

Angel Dzhambazki

on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0309/2020

Juan Fernando López Aguilar

on behalf of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

Rule of law and fundamental rights in Bulgaria

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 24

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

24. Reiterates its position on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of the Union's budget in case of generalised deficiencies as regards the rule of law in the Member States¹⁷, including the need to safeguard the rights of beneficiaries, and calls on the Council to start interinstitutional negotiations as soon as possible;

Deleted

¹⁷ Texts adopted, P8_TA(2019)0349.

Or. en