

Resolution on humanitarian aid to Sahrawi refugees

2005/2546(RSP) - 14/04/2005 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on humanitarian aid to Sahrawi refugees.

The text adopted in plenary had been tabled as a joint resolution by the EPP-ED, PES, ALDE, Greens /EFA, and GUE/NGL groups.

Parliament recalls that the Sahrawi population finds itself in refugee camps in Algeria as a result of unfinished decolonisation and that the survival of this population is entirely dependent on international humanitarian aid. Having regard to the deterioration in the humanitarian situation in Sahrawi refugee camps (situated near Tindouf in south-western Algeria), the European Parliament calls for a reaction from the European Union.

In particular, it calls on the Commission to :

- grant immediate emergency aid to enable the difficult situation of the Sahrawi population currently living as refugees to be addressed;
- step up and diversify its aid so that it is brought up at least to the 2002 level, thus guaranteeing a decent minimum diet to the Sahrawi refugees, while continuing to place importance on the areas of health, education, accommodation and transport;
- take appropriate steps to ensure that the aid provided to Sahrawi refugee camps is guaranteed and is under no circumstances interrupted, even momentarily, for merely administrative reasons;
- involve the European NGOs which already have experience on the ground in implementing the ECHO programmes for the Sahrawi refugees;
- strengthen the capacities for administering humanitarian aid in the refugee camps by cooperating with the Sahrawi institutions.