

Procedure file

Basic information		
RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	2004/2543(RSP)	Procedure completed
Resolution on anti-personnel mines, review of the Ottawa Treaty		
Subject 6.10.03 Armaments control, non-proliferation nuclear weapons		

Key players	
European Parliament	

Key events			
22/04/2004	Decision by Parliament	T5-0383/2004	Summary
22/04/2004	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2004/2543(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Resolution on statement
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 132-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway					
Motion for a resolution		B5-0215/2004	22/04/2004	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B5-0216/2004	22/04/2004	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B5-0217/2004	22/04/2004	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B5-0221/2004	22/04/2004	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B5-0224/2004	22/04/2004	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects		T5-0383/2004 OJ C 104 30.04.2004, p. 0758-1075 E	22/04/2004	EP	Summary
Joint motion for resolution		RC-B5-0215/2004	22/04/2004		

Resolution on anti-personnel mines, review of the Ottawa Treaty

The European Parliament passed a resolution calling on all states that have not signed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use,

Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (the Mine Ban Treaty) to accede to it without delay and in any case before the First Review Conference of the Convention. All states should sign and ratify the Treaty without delay. Parliament called on the United States to take back its announcement that it will not join the Convention, and to change its decision to keep its 8.8 million so-called 'smart' anti-personnel mines (fitted with self-destruct mechanisms) and to stop using 'classical' anti-personnel and anti-vehicle landmines only after 2010 - four years later than the previous target date. Also, the four remaining Member States of the enlarged European Union which have not yet ratified or acceded to the 1997 Mine Ban Treaty to do so without further delay. Parliament felt that the First Review Conference in Nairobi should be structured to emphasise progress to date in the pursuit of the four core aims of the Ottawa Convention, namely clearing mined areas, assisting victims, destroying stockpiles of anti-personnel mines and universalising the Convention. It called on the Nairobi Review Conference of the Ottawa Convention to make a strong commitment calling on all NSAs (Non-State Actors) to sign the 'Deed of Commitment for Adherence to a Total Ban on Anti-Personnel Landmines and for Cooperation in Mine Action' under the Geneva Call. Increased resources must be made available for humanitarian demining, mine risk education and the care, rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of mine victims, and for mine-affected states to establish appropriate and adequate assistance for landmine survivors in areas under state control or under the de facto control of armed NSAs. Parliament recalled that the EC has pledged EUR 240 million for the period 2002 - 2009, and that it gives priority, in granting financial aid, to those countries which adhere to the principles and obligations of the Mine Ban Convention. However, the European Union may consider providing financial support also to states not party to the Mine Ban Convention, should humanitarian emergencies arise. As in the past, this support must be contingent on the proven political will of the recipient country to move towards accession to the Convention. Parliament went on to urge the Council and the Commission to continue to support the efforts to commit NSAs to a landmine ban. This does not imply support for, or recognition of the legitimacy of, NSAs or their activities. An ambitious aspect of the Mine Ban Treaty was the setting of targets for mine clearance worldwide. The first deadlines for mine clearance will occur in 2009. Parliament noted with regret that the slow pace of clearance and the new use of landmines in conflicts mean that these targets will not be met unless there is a clear demonstration by all States Parties of reinforced political will and resource commitments. Finally, Parliament requested, in order to allow continuous monitoring of the European Union's actions and to ensure its leading role in these actions, that a delegation of the European Parliament be included in the EU's delegation to the Nairobi Summit on a Mine-Free World.?