



Procedure file

Basic information		
RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	2015/3017(RSP)	Procedure completed
Resolution on the situation in the Maldives		
Subject 6.10.08 Fundamental freedoms, human rights, democracy in general		
Geographical area Maldives		

Key players	
European Parliament	

Key events			
17/12/2015	Results of vote in Parliament		
17/12/2015	Debate in Parliament		
17/12/2015	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T8-0464/2015	Summary
17/12/2015	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2015/3017(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Urgent debate or resolution
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 144
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway					
Motion for a resolution		B8-1409/2015	15/12/2015	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B8-1410/2015	15/12/2015	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B8-1411/2015	15/12/2015	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B8-1414/2015	15/12/2015	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B8-1417/2015	15/12/2015	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B8-1419/2015	15/12/2015	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B8-1421/2015	15/12/2015	EP	
Joint motion for resolution		RC-B8-1409/2015	15/12/2015		
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T8-0464/2015	17/12/2015	EP	Summary

The European Parliament adopted by 563 votes to 31, with 32 abstentions, a resolution on the situation in the Maldives.

The text adopted in plenary was tabled by the EPP, S&D, ECR, ALDE, GUE/NGL, Green/EFA and EFDD groups.

Parliament recalled that on 4 November 2015, the Government of the Maldives declared a state of emergency, revoked six days later, which appeared to be a means of preventing mass anti-government protests. It also recalled that the presidential election process in 2013, which brought Abdulla Yameen Abdul Gayoom to power, was marred by irregularities and that on 13 March 2015 Mohamed Nasheed, the first democratically elected president of the Maldives, was sentenced to 13 years in prison on politically motivated charges, as well as other former officials of his government.

Deploing the crackdown on political opponents, the Government of the Maldives is called upon to release, immediately and unconditionally, former president Mohamed Nasheed and other political prisoners. It reiterated its gross dissatisfaction with the serious irregularities in the trial of former president Mohamed Nasheed and called on the Maldivian Government to guarantee full impartiality of the judiciary and to respect due process of law and the right to a fair, impartial and independent trial; stresses the need to depoliticise the countrys judiciary and security services.

Deeply worried by the constant erosion of human rights, including the misuse of the state of emergency by executive powers in the Maldives, Parliament called for the establishment of a genuine dialogue among all political parties on the future of this fragile island state.

The Government of the Maldives is invited to:

- respect and fully support the right to protest and the right to freedom of expression, association and assembly;
- end impunity for vigilantes who have used violence against people promoting religious tolerance, peaceful protesters, critical media and civil society; calls on the Maldives to respect fully its international obligations;
- safeguard the rights of pro-democracy campaigners, moderate Muslims, supporters of secularism, and those who oppose the promotion of Wahhabi-Salafist ideology in the Maldives.

Regression of citizens rights: Parliament recalled that media freedom is the cornerstone of a functioning democracy. It called on the Maldivian Government and authorities to ensure adequate protection of journalists and human rights defenders who face threats and attacks on account of their legitimate work. It called, as a matter of urgency, for the re-establishment of the moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its abolition, and for a revision of the penal code with the aim of stopping the use of corporal punishment.

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Parliament also called on the Commission and the Member States to issue comprehensive warnings about the Maldives human rights record to tourists planning to go to the country.

Lastly, the EU and the Member States are called upon, in the face of continuing democratic backsliding and deterioration of the human rights situation in the Maldives, to introduce restrictive measures in the form of targeted sanctions to freeze the assets abroad of certain members of the Maldivian Government and their leading supporters in the Maldivian business community, and to impose travel bans on them.