



Procedure file

Basic information		
RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	2020/2665(RSP)	Procedure completed
Resolution on the PRC national security law for Hong Kong and the need for the EU to defend Hong Kong's high degree of autonomy		
Subject 6.10.04 Third-country political situation, local and regional conflicts		
Geographical area Hong Kong China		

Key players	
European Parliament	

Key events			
18/06/2020	Debate in Parliament		
19/06/2020	Decision by Parliament	T9-0174/2020	Summary
19/06/2020	End of procedure in Parliament		
19/09/2020	Results of vote in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2020/2665(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		B9-0169/2020	19/06/2020	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0171/2020	19/06/2020	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0173/2020	19/06/2020	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0174/2020	19/06/2020	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0176/2020	19/06/2020	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0181/2020	19/06/2020	EP	

Motion for a resolution		B9-0193/2020	19/06/2020	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0174/2020	19/06/2020	EP	Summary
Joint motion for resolution		RC-B9-0169/2020	19/06/2020		

Resolution on the PRC national security law for Hong Kong and the need for the EU to defend Hong Kong's high degree of autonomy

The European Parliament adopted by 565 votes to 34, with 62 abstentions, a resolution on the Peoples Republic of China national security law for Hong Kong and the need for the EU to defend Hong Kongs high degree of autonomy.

The text adopted in plenary had been tabled as a joint resolution by the EPP, S&D, Renew, Greens/EFA and ECR groups.

Condemnation of the national security law

Parliament deplored Beijing's unilateral imposition of the National Security Act on Hong Kong, which constitutes a comprehensive assault on the city's autonomy, rule of law and fundamental freedoms and seriously threatens the principle of one country, two systems enshrined in the 1984 Sino-British Joint Declaration and the 1990 Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR).

According to Members, the introduction of the planned national security legislation would be seen as a breach of the Peoples Republic of Chinas commitments and obligations under international law, in particular the Sino-British Joint Declaration, threatens to severely damage the relationship of trust between China and the EU, and affect future cooperation, as well as business confidence in Hong Kong as a major global financial centre.

Parliament condemned China's continued and increasing interference in Hong Kong's internal affairs, stressing that China should not undermine the wide autonomy of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. It called on the Chinese authorities to respect China's international obligations, including the introduction of universal suffrage, to stop pressuring the business community to support the national security law and to refrain from labelling international support for Hong Kong's autonomy and freedoms as interference in its internal affairs and acts of subversion and separation.

Parliament recommended that the EU and Member States should consider filing a case before the International Court of Justice alleging that Chinas decision to impose national security legislation on Hong Kong violates the Sino-British Joint Declaration.

Members also strongly condemned all human rights violations committed in Hong Kong and called for an independent investigation into the excessive use of force by the Hong Kong police against demonstrators. They expressed concern about the increasing deterioration of civil and political rights and press freedom.

Adopting a new European strategy towards China

Calling for a new, more assertive strategy towards China, Parliament called on the EU to treat the issue of the National Security Law for Hong Kong as a top priority at the next EU-China summit, as well as other human rights issues, including the situation of the Uyghurs.

Members stressed that the EU - as the leading destination for Chinese exports - should use its economic leverage to crack down on human rights violations committed by China. They called for respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms to form an important part of negotiations on any comprehensive investment or trade agreement with China.

The Council is called on to finalise in 2020 the work on an EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Mechanism and to adopt targeted sanctions and assets freezes against Chinese officials responsible for devising and implementing policies that violate human rights.

Member States shall furthermore:

- work towards the establishment of appropriate export control mechanisms, including cyber-surveillance items to deny China, and in particular Hong Kong, from gaining access to technologies used to violate fundamental rights;
- examine ways to avoid economic, and in particular technological, dependence on China, including in their decisions on the development of 5G networks;
- consider the creation of a lifeboat scheme for Hong Kong citizens in the event of further deterioration of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Parliament called on the HR/VP and the Member States to closely monitor the situation in the run-up to the Legislative Council elections scheduled for September and to report back regularly on the situation.