

Procedure file



Basic information

RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	2023/2661(RSP)	Procedure completed
Resolution on media freedom and freedom of expression in Algeria, the case of journalist Ihsane El-Kadi		
Subject		
3.30.08 Press, media freedom and pluralism		
6.10.08 Fundamental freedoms, human rights, democracy in general		
Geographical area		
Algeria		

Key players

European Parliament	
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Key events

10/05/2023	Debate in Parliament		
11/05/2023	Results of vote in Parliament		
11/05/2023	Decision by Parliament	T9-0198/2023	Summary
11/05/2023	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2023/2661(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Urgent debate or resolution
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 144-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

Motion for a resolution		B9-0239/2023	08/05/2023	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0242/2023	08/05/2023	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0243/2023	08/05/2023	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0244/2023	08/05/2023	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0245/2023	08/05/2023	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B9-0248/2023	08/05/2023	EP	

Resolution on media freedom and freedom of expression in Algeria, the case of journalist Ihsane El-Kadi

The European Parliament adopted by 536 votes to 4, with 18 abstentions, a resolution on media freedom and freedom of expression in Algeria the case of journalist Ihsane El-Kadi.

The text adopted in plenary was tabled by the EPP, S&D, Greens/EFA and ECR groups.

Since the 2019 Hirak protests, Algerias authorities have substantially clamped down on media freedom and freedom of expression. Ihsane El-Kadi, a prominent Algerian journalist and manager of Interface Médias, one of the last independent media enterprises in Algeria, with the online outlets Radio M and Maghreb Emergent, was arrested without a warrant on 23rd December 2022.

On 2 April 2023, an Algerian court sentenced El-Kadi to five years imprisonment, of which two suspended, a fine of 700 million Algerian dinars, the dissolution of his media company and the confiscation of its assets following his conviction on unfounded charges of receiving funds for political propaganda and harming the security of the state under Articles 95 and 95bis of Algerias Penal Code. The hearing on his appeal will take place in the second half of May 2023.

The resolution called on the EUs institutions and Member States are called on to raise El-Kadis case with Algerias authorities and openly condemn the crackdown on media freedom.

Moreover, Parliament called on the Algerian authorities to:

- immediately and unconditionally release Ihsane El-Kadi and all those arbitrarily detained and charged for exercising their right to freedom of expression;
- respect and uphold fundamental freedoms, particularly media freedom, to reopen shuttered media outlets and to halt the arrest and detention of political activists, journalists, human rights defenders and trade unionists;
- amend the Penal Codes security-related clauses that are used to criminalise freedom of expression;
- guarantee that foreign journalists will be granted visas and accreditation without undue delay and will be free to operate.

Lastly, the EU delegation and Member State embassies in Algeria are urged to request access to imprisoned journalists and observe their trials.