



# Procedure file

| Basic information   |                                |                     |
|---|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects                                       | <a href="#">2008/2618(RSP)</a> | Procedure completed |
| Resolution on the death penalty, particularly the case of Troy Davis        |                                |                     |
| Subject<br>6.10.08 Fundamental freedoms, human rights, democracy in general |                                |                     |
| Geographical area<br>United States  |                                |                     |

| Key players         |  |
|---------------------|--|
| European Parliament |  |

| Key events |                                |   |         |
|------------|--------------------------------|---|---------|
| 10/07/2008 | Results of vote in Parliament  |  |         |
| 10/07/2008 | Debate in Parliament           |  | Summary |
| 10/07/2008 | Decision by Parliament         | <a href="#">T6-0368/2008</a>  | Summary |
| 10/07/2008 | End of procedure in Parliament |   |         |

| Technical information      |                                       |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Procedure reference        | 2008/2618(RSP)                        |
| Procedure type             | RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects |
| Procedure subtype          | Urgent debate or resolution           |
| Legal basis                | Rules of Procedure EP 135             |
| Stage reached in procedure | Procedure completed                   |

| Documentation gateway       |  |                                 |            |    |  |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------|------------|----|--|
| Motion for a resolution     |  | <a href="#">B6-0350/2008</a>    | 08/07/2008 | EP |  |
| Motion for a resolution     |  | <a href="#">B6-0357/2008</a>    | 08/07/2008 | EP |  |
| Motion for a resolution     |  | <a href="#">B6-0358/2008</a>    | 08/07/2008 | EP |  |
| Motion for a resolution     |  | <a href="#">B6-0363/2008</a>    | 08/07/2008 | EP |  |
| Motion for a resolution     |  | <a href="#">B6-0369/2008</a>    | 08/07/2008 | EP |  |
| Motion for a resolution     |  | <a href="#">B6-0370/2008</a>    | 08/07/2008 | EP |  |
| Joint motion for resolution |  | <a href="#">RC-B6-0350/2008</a> | 08/07/2008 |    |  |

|  |                              |            |    |         |
|--|------------------------------|------------|----|---------|
| Text adopted by Parliament, single reading     | <a href="#">T6-0368/2008</a> | 10/07/2008 | EP | Summary |
| Commission response to text adopted in plenary | <a href="#">SP(2008)4891</a> | 27/08/2008 | EC |         |

## Resolution on the death penalty, particularly the case of Troy Davis

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Following the debate which took place during the sitting of 10 July 2008, the European Parliament adopted, by 52 votes to 0 with 1 abstention, a resolution on the death penalty, particularly the case of Troy Davis. The resolution had been tabled for consideration in plenary by the EPP-ED, PES, ALDE, UEN, Greens/EFA and GUE/NGL groups. Troy Davis is sentenced to death by the Georgia State Court in 1991 for the murder of a policeman and scheduled to be executed at the end of July 2008. Parliament recalls that, according to Troy Davis' lawyers, there is abundant proof of his innocence, material evidence against him has never been produced and seven witnesses for the prosecution have retracted their testimony. On 4 August 2007 the Supreme Court of Georgia agreed to reconsider new elements casting doubt on Troy Davis' guilt. The resolution recalls that in the United States the power of clemency in cases where a capital sentence has been imposed exists as a failsafe against irreversible errors that the courts are unable or unwilling to remedy.

Parliament calls upon those countries where the death penalty is imposed to take the necessary steps towards its abolition. It asks that Troy Davis' death sentence be commuted and, in view of the abundant evidence which might lead to such commutation, for the relevant courts to grant him a retrial. Members appeal urgently to the Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles to commute Troy Davis' death sentence. They call on the Presidency of the Council and the Delegation of the Commission to the United States to raise the issue as a matter of urgency with the US authorities.

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The House held a debate, pursuant to Rule 115 of the Rules of Procedure (debates on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law), on the death penalty, particularly the case of Troy Davis.

The debate was followed by a vote on a motion for a resolution.