

3rd Standing Committee on Dialogue among Civilizations and Human Rights

"PAM MPs for Human Rights"

Rapporteur : Hon. Sandrine Mörch (France)

Resolution unanimously adopted on 22 February 2019 during the 13th Plenary Session in Belgrade

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean,

- *a)* Deeply concerned by the current state of human rights in the Euro-Mediterranean region;
- b) *Recalling* the principles of international human rights law and other sources of human rights;
- *c) Stressing* the importance of the role of parliaments in promoting human rights, through their legislative and oversight functions, as well as through the adoption of the public budget and the establishment and functioning of national human rights institutions in conformity with the Paris Principles;
- d) Aware of the important role of parliaments in, *inter alia*, translating international commitments into national policies and laws, and supporting the implementation of recommendations by international human rights mechanisms and the Human Rights Council, particularly in its resolutions 22/15, 26/29, 30/14 and 35/29;
- *e) Recalling* the Report 72/351 of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in which he encourages parliaments to establish permanent human rights commissions, and to participate actively in the work of international human rights mechanisms;
- *f) Recalling* Report 38/25 of the Human Rights Council and the "Draft Principles on Parliaments and Human Rights" in the report, aiming at guiding parliaments in setting up dedicated parliamentary committees human rights;
- *I. Reaffirms* its attachment and commitment to human rights in the region;
- *II. Calls* on its parliaments to ensure that the executive fulfills its responsibility to implement recommendations on human rights principles, and to help fill the gaps in the matter, to prevent violations of human rights and provide better protection for the population, in particular vulnerable groups; and to endorse the "Draft Principles on Parliaments and Human Rights";

- *III. Invites* its parliamentarians to invest their time and efforts in promoting a human rights culture in the Mediterranean basin, to strengthen their own capacities in order to fulfill their legislative, oversight and representation functions, and to participate in the PAM activities on the subject;
- IV. Encourages its parliamentarians to be involved in the preparation of the national reports submitted to the Human Rights Council in the framework of the UPR, or to human rights treaty bodies; be part of the national delegation participating in universal periodic review and treaty body interactive dialogues; to participate within any national coordination mechanism for reporting and follow up, to be involved in the development of national human rights action plans for the implementation of the recommendations; to participate in mid-term reports; to hold meetings with their governments to better participate in the UPR process and to meet with human rights mechanisms representatives, such as special rapporteurs, during their country visits;
- *V. Calls* on its parliamentarians to ensure that adequate resources are allocated to the promotion and protection of human rights in the national parliament, and to invest in the improvement of the democratic infrastructure of the government;
- *VI. Encourages* its member parliaments to ratify and implement human rights instruments, to address major issues such as impunity for perpetrators, human trafficking, restrictions to freedom of expression and reunion, and discrimination and exclusion of vulnerable groups, and to implement the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees;
- *VII. Invites* its member parliaments, if not yet done, to set up parliamentary committees dedicated to human rights, in conformity with the "Principles on Parliaments and Human Rights" included in report A/HRC/38/25 of the Human Rights Council;
- **VIII. Encourages** its parliamentarians to defend multilateralism, to support international organizations promoting human rights, such as the Human Rights Council, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the European Court for Human Rights; to support the alignment of human rights efforts with the Agenda 2030 and the SDGs for the UNSG prevention and reforms efforts; and to commit to an ongoing dialogue with national human rights institutions and civil society.
 - *IX. Invites* its members to advocate for a more efficient use of Official Development Assistance.