P6_TA(2006)0439

Peace process in Spain

European Parliament resolution on the peace process in Spain

The European Parliament,
— having regard to Rule 103(2) of its Rules of Procedure,

1. Endorses the statement by the European Council of 23 and 24 March 2006, under the Austrian Presidency, that ‘the European Council welcomed the reports of the President of the Spanish Government on the announcement of a permanent ceasefire made by the terrorist group ETA’;

2. Supports the statement on 22 March 2006 by the President of the European Parliament, Josep Borrell, to the effect that ‘this is good news for Spanish society and the whole of Europe, which shows that terrorism can be fought by the force of democracy; this is a time to show calmness and caution, a time to remember the many victims of terrorism, a time for hope, for all democratic political forces to join together’;

3. Calls on the Council and the Commission to take appropriate action;

4. Condemns violence as being morally unacceptable and absolutely incompatible with democracy;

5. Expresses its solidarity with the victims of terrorism;

6. Supports the fight against terrorism and the peace initiative in the Basque Country undertaken by the Spanish democratic institutions within the framework of their exclusive competences;

7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the governments of the Member States.

P6_TA(2006)0440

European order for payment procedure ***II


(Codecision procedure: second reading)

The European Parliament,
— having regard to the Council common position (7535/3/2006 — C6-0227/2006),
— having regard to its position at first reading (1) on the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2004)0173) (2),
— having regard to Article 251(2) of the EC Treaty,
— having regard to Rule 62 of its Rules of Procedure,
— having regard to the recommendation for second reading of the Committee on Legal Affairs (A6-0316/2006),

(2) Not yet published in OJ.
1. Approves the common position as amended;

2. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council and the Commission.

P6_TC2-COD(2004)0055


THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 61(c) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee (1),

Acting in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 251 of the Treaty (2),

Whereas:

(1) The Community has set itself the objective of maintaining and developing an area of freedom, security and justice in which the free movement of persons is ensured. For the gradual establishment of such an area, the Community is to adopt, inter alia, measures in the field of judicial cooperation in civil matters having cross-border implications and needed for the proper functioning of the internal market.

(2) According to Article 65(c) of the Treaty, these measures are to include measures eliminating obstacles to the good functioning of civil proceedings, if necessary by promoting the compatibility of the rules on civil procedure applicable in the Member States.

(3) The European Council meeting in Tampere on 15 and 16 October 1999 invited the Council and the Commission to prepare new legislation on issues that are instrumental to smooth judicial cooperation and to enhanced access to law and specifically made reference, in that context, to orders for money payment.

(4) On 30 November 2000, the Council adopted a joint Commission and Council programme of measures for implementation of the principle of mutual recognition of decisions in civil and commercial matters (3). The programme envisages the possibility of a specific, uniform or harmonised procedure laid down within the Community to obtain a judicial decision in specific areas including that of uncontested claims. This was taken forward by the Hague Programme, adopted by the European Council on 5 November 2004, which called for work to be actively pursued on the European order for payment.

(5) The Commission adopted a Green Paper on a European order for payment procedure and on measures to simplify and speed up small claims litigation on 20 December 2002. The Green Paper launched consultations on the possible objectives and features of a uniform or harmonised European procedure for the recovery of uncontested claims.

(6) The swift and efficient recovery of outstanding debts over which no legal controversy exists is of paramount importance for economic operators in the European Union, as late payments constitute a major reason for insolvency threatening the survival of businesses, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises, and resulting in numerous job losses.

(1) OJ C 221, 8.9.2005, p. 77.