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on EU-China Relations
(2005/2161(INI))

Committee on Foreign Affairs

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MOTION FOR A EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT RESOLUTION

on EU-China Relations (2005/2161(INI))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the 30th anniversary, in 2005, of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the EU and China,
- having regard to the EU-China Strategic Partnership launched in 2003,
- having regard to the main legal framework for relations with China, namely the 1985 EC-China Trade and Cooperation Agreement, which covers economic and trade relations and the EU-China cooperation programme,
- having regard to the Commission's policy paper entitled “A maturing partnership: shared interests and challenges in EU-China relations”, endorsed by the European Council on 13 October 2003,
- having regard to the first-ever policy paper by China on the EU, issued on 13 October 2003,
- having regard to the EU-China political dialogue which was formally established in 1994 in recognition of China's status as an emerging power on the international scene,
- having regard to the EU-China dialogue on human rights, initiated in January 1996, which was interrupted and then restarted in 1997, to the October 2005 Troika visit to Xinjiang which took place within the framework of the EU-China Human Rights Dialogue, and to the EU-China Dialogue Seminar on Human Rights held in London in December 2005, with the European Parliament as an observer,
- having regard to the ongoing Sectoral Dialogues between China and the European Commission, such as the recently launched dialogue on employment and that on intellectual property rights (IPR),
- having regard to the Science and Technology Agreement between the EU and China which entered into force in 2000 and was renewed in 2004,
- having regard to the agreement on cooperation in the EU's Galileo satellite navigation programme,
- having regard to the 8th EU-China Summit which took place in Beijing in September 2005 and to the Joint Declaration issued at the conclusion thereof, and the forthcoming 9th EU-China Summit to be held in Finland in the second half of 2006,
- having regard to the Joint Declaration on Climate Change issued at the 8th EU-China Summit,
- having regard to the session of the 10th National People's Congress (5-14 March 2006) and Premier Wen Jiabao's government report delivered thereat,

- having regard to the two most recent EP-China Interparliamentary meetings which took place in Beijing, Shanghai and Hainan in March 2004 and in Brussels in October 2005 respectively,
 - having regard to its recent resolutions on China, in particular its resolution of 13 October 2005 on prospects for EU-China trade relations¹, of 8 September 2005 on breaches of human rights in China, in particular as regards freedom of religion², of 28 April 2005 on the Annual Report on Human rights in the World 2004 and EU policy on the matter³ and of 11 April 2002 on an EU Strategy towards China⁴,
 - having regard to the EU arms embargo introduced after the Tiananmen crackdown of June 1989, as supported by the European Parliament in its resolution of 2 February 2006⁵ on the main aspects and basic choices of CFSP,
 - having regard to its resolution of 7 July 2005 on relations between the EU, China and Taiwan and security in the Far East⁶,
 - having regard to its previous resolutions on Tibet and the human rights situation in China, and its resolutions of 18 November 2004⁷, 13 January 2005⁸ and 27 October 2005⁹ on the case of the Lama Tenzin Delek Rinpoche, imprisoned and tortured and therefore with his life in danger,
 - having regard to the lack of progress in the EU-China human rights dialogue,
 - having regard to Rule 45 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the opinion of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (A6-0257/2006),
- A. whereas the EU-China Strategic Partnership is of great importance for relations between the EU and China,
- B. whereas credibility, democratic values and responsibility should constitute the fundamental basis of the relationship between the EU and China,
- C. whereas the strengthening of the EU's relationship with China will be crucial in meeting global challenges such as climate change, security and non-proliferation,
- D. whereas China in itself constitutes the biggest challenge of trade globalisation and whereas it is experiencing a huge economic boom, with estimated growth rates of around 9% per annum,

¹ *Texts Adopted*, P6_TA(2005)0381.

² *Texts Adopted*, P6_TA(2005)0339.

³ OJ C 45 E, 23.2.2006, p. 107.

⁴ OJ C 127 E, 29.5.2003, p. 652.

⁵ *Texts Adopted*, P6_TA(2006)0037.

⁶ OJ C 157 E, 6.7.2006, p. 471.

⁷ OJ C 201 E, 18.8.2005, p. 122.

⁸ OJ C 247 E, 6.10.2005, p. 158.

⁹ *Texts Adopted*, P6_TA(2005)0416.

- E. whereas China's vigorous economic development, coupled not least with its permanent membership of the UN Security Council and its membership of the World Trade Organization, compels the country to shoulder a growing international responsibility,
- F. whereas the EU is China's biggest trading partner and the biggest investor in China and whereas China is the EU's second biggest trading partner; whereas trade and economic relations have overshadowed the question of democratic reforms, respect for human rights and the rule of law,
- G. whereas WTO membership creates a set of rights and obligations for both the EU and China; whereas, moreover, many of these obligations are still not being adequately applied and implemented by the Chinese side, particularly those relating to the protection of intellectual property, national treatment and transparency,
- H. whereas 70% of all counterfeit goods seized on the European market come from China, and whereas every year nearly five million counterfeit garments and accessories are confiscated by the customs services,
- I. whereas Market Economy Status (MES) is an economic instrument rather than a political instrument; whereas China has to improve its performance in order to obtain MES,
- J. whereas trading relations between the EU and China require reciprocal market access founded on the legal basis of WTO rules and on equitable and fair competition,
- K. whereas "sectoral dialogues" between the EU and China have grown considerably in recent years,
- L. whereas the Chinese leadership, in its White Paper on the "Construction of Political Democracy in China" (2005), confirms the primacy of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) in China's socialist system of government,
- M. whereas the Middle Kingdom of today enjoys a nationwide compact network of courts, evidencing significant progress in comparison with the situation some three decades ago,
- N. whereas during the session of the 10th National People's Congress (5-14 March 2006) a spokesman for the Supreme People's Court declared that China will not abolish the internationally criticised death penalty because the People's Republic of China (PRC) is still a developing country in the early phase of socialism,
- O. whereas the number of executions carried out is a state secret in China, but whereas, according to estimates given by Chinese jurists, about 8,000 people die in this way each year,
- P. whereas in 2005 the Chinese security authorities registered 87,000 "incidents with a massive turnout", an increase of 6.6% over 2004,
- Q. whereas, according to warnings from indigenous social scientists, the Chinese leadership's policies for a harmonious society and the construction of new socialist

- villages reflect the current dangerous transition phase of the PRC to a market economy,
- R. whereas the PRC introduced a “one-child” policy in 1976, which is currently being debated under the intriguing title “Will China grow old before getting rich?”,
 - S. whereas China expelled the Friedrich Naumann Foundation from Beijing in 1996,
 - T. whereas in March 2004 China included in its constitution a provision whereby human rights would be respected and guaranteed by the state; whereas China has signed but not ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,
 - U. whereas there are continuous disturbing reports of political imprisonments, particularly of members of religious and ethnic minorities, allegations of torture, widespread use of forced labour, frequent use of the death penalty and systematic repression of freedom of religion, speech and of the media including the internet,
 - V. whereas new regulations on religious affairs took effect on 1 March 2005,
 - W. whereas the UN Commission on Human Rights' Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances noted that its meeting in Geneva in April 2006 coincided with the 17th birthday of Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, the Panchen Lama of Tibet, who was abducted by the Chinese against his will and the will of his parents when he was six years old,
 - X. whereas, nearly a decade after the initial request was made, a visit to the PRC by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture finally materialised in the period from 20 November to 2 December 2005; whereas, however, the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief has not been received for a follow-up visit to that made to China by his predecessor in November 1994, and whereas China has failed to issue a standing invitation to all the thematic procedures of the UN Commission on Human Rights,
 - Y. whereas, in its Global Appeal 2006, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) continues to call on the PRC for the issuance of appropriate national refugee regulations, and for increased access to North Korean asylum seekers who may be in need of international protection,
 - Z. whereas, according to the 2005 Yearbook of the Supreme People’s Court, about 400 citizens were sentenced for political offences in 2004, 25% more than in the previous year,
 - AA. whereas according to the Dui Hua Foundation, which has been granted “special consultative status” by the UN Economic and Social Council, the PRC currently has between 3 000 and 3 500 people imprisoned for the crime of “threatening public security”,
 - AB. whereas the internet portal "Google" has submitted to restrictions imposed by the Chinese authorities, denying access to websites containing critical elements and words such as "Taiwan", "independence", "Tibet" or "Tiananmen",

- AC. whereas on 14 March 2006 the foreign news services Reuters and the BBC reported on an open letter (dated 2 March 2006) from several former high cadres of the CCP, criticising tightened press censorship,
- AD. whereas the campaign in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region targeting the “three evils” of religious extremism, splittism and terrorism continues and resulted in numerous arrests last year, according to state-run media,
- AE. whereas, due to the strict controls exercised by the Chinese Government over information about and access to Tibetan areas of China, it is difficult to determine accurately the scope of human rights abuses,
- AF. whereas the Chinese leadership emphasises the “peaceful rise” or “peaceful development” of China with regard to the admirable re-emergence of the PRC on the world stage,
- AG. whereas the option of reunification between the PRC and Taiwan should be kept alive; whereas such an option must be pursued peacefully through dialogue and diplomacy, also taking into account the will of the people on both sides,
- AH. whereas the causes of the worsening bilateral relationship between China and Japan are political, not economic,
- AI. whereas the current American approach towards China as a resurgent power may be characterised by the concept of “con-gagement”, being a combination of two strategies: containment and engagement,
- AJ. whereas China’s engagement and influence in Africa have increased considerably over the last decade,
- AK. whereas China profits from substantial financial and commercial connections with the Islamic Republic of Iran (exploration and importation of oil and gas/exports of weaponry), supporting the latter’s non-cooperative and provocative nuclear behaviour,
- AL. whereas China is cooperating with neighbouring countries in the context of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO),
- AM. whereas China and ASEAN decided in 2002 to set up an ASEAN-China free trade area,
- AN. whereas over the past few years the Commission and Parliament alike have been focusing constant attention on Macao and Hong Kong,

EU-China cooperation

1. Looks forward to the advent of the EU-China Strategic Partnership and the closer cooperation which this will entail on a wide range of issues; urges the Council and the Commission to formulate a consistent and coherent policy towards China;
2. Calls on China and the EU to establish their partnership and bilateral relationship on the fundamental basis of openness, credibility, stability and responsibility; urges both China and the EU to improve their cooperation on this basis in order to play a stable,

responsible and credible role within the international community;

Economic situation

3. Notes that the EU, after enlargement, overtook Japan to become China's largest trading partner and that, at the same time, China rose from being the EU's third trading partner to become its second largest, after the US;
4. Notes that in 2005, the Chinese trade balance amounted to USD 102 billion, which is more than twice as much as in the previous bench-mark year (USD 32 billion); that in 2005, currency reserves amounted to approximately USD 819 billion - an increase of USD 209 billion compared to the previous year; that if this trend continues, China is likely to have at its disposal over USD 1 billion in foreign reserves at the end of 2006, making it the world's largest holder of foreign currency; that initial predictions for 2006 point to a capital inflow of some USD 50 billion, primarily in long-term direct private investments; welcomes in this connection the fact that China has started to relax pegging its currency (Renminbi) to the US dollar and is thus not opposed to a possible currency revaluation; considers that warnings about insufficient risk surcharges for lending operations should be taken seriously;
5. Takes note of China's rapid economic development, making it the world's fourth biggest economy in dollar terms, even at its current undervalued rate; accordingly calls on the Commission to exert political and economic pressure aimed at bringing flexibility to bear on the exchange rate of the Chinese currency, which is being pegged at an artificially low value, a situation that runs counter to gradual world trade liberalisation; calls on China to gradually float its exchange rate; calls on China to replace the fixed linking of its currency to the dollar with a linkage to a basket of currencies including the euro;
6. Recognises that China is more than a fast-growing market; underlines the fact that the on-going technological revolution of a country of this size has huge implications in a global economy;
7. Considers that balanced economic development is of great importance to both China and the EU; underlines the fact that stagnation of the Chinese economy due to uncontrolled growth is a serious threat both to China's internal stability and to the wellbeing of the global economy;
8. Welcomes the fact that in autumn 2006 the Commission took the initiative of publishing a strategy paper on the Union's long-term economic and trade relations with China in order to anticipate more adequately the impact of China's economic rise and to avoid ad hoc decision-making, thus helping to ensure that China will no longer be considered a threat, but perceived as a challenge and an evolving partner;
9. Stresses that an increasingly positive trade relationship should also result in human rights reforms and recognises that, until there is a legally binding code of conduct on arms exports and until the situation regarding human rights and civil and political freedoms – including the Tiananmen Square issue – has been properly addressed, the EU should not lift the arms embargo;

10. Calls on China to develop a solid and credible investment climate for foreign trade and industry and to give absolute priority to improving legal security for foreign companies;
11. Reminds China that a further opening of its markets to foreign companies and investment, especially in the telecommunications, banking and financial services sectors, is to be seen as an integral part of the strategic partnership; calls on China to reform its market and its economic system accordingly, and to comply more rigorously with the anti-dumping rules and enforce them more strictly;
12. Takes the view that, within the framework of efforts to modernise and liberalise the Chinese banking system, the EU should continue to work closely with the Chinese authorities with a view to adopting international accounting standards and the Basel II standards, which would ensure greater security for EU investors;
13. Welcomes the rapid modernisation of the Chinese financial sector; stresses, however, the utmost importance of ensuring a smooth transition to avoid any financial instability with possible repercussions across global financial markets; suggests, in particular, that a 'race to the bottom' involving harmful regulatory competition between global financial marketplaces should be avoided; suggests, on the contrary, that major regulators worldwide should promote standards of the highest quality; recalls that the EU itself is committed to the global convergence of standards in the areas of accounting (International Financial Reporting Standards), audit (International Standards on Auditing), capital requirements for credit institutions (Basel II), money laundering and the fight against financing terrorism (Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF) recommendations) and securities market regulation (International Organization of Securities Commissions standards); points out that the EU would be ready to offer its experience and assistance to the Chinese authorities to implement convergence where necessary;
14. Considers that China is faced with considerable regional development disparities and more general income disparities, and that the new Chinese leadership must commit itself to tackling these problems with the help and expertise of the Commission;
15. Calls on China to use a transparent and fair procedure in the award of public procurement contracts which gives foreign undertakings equal opportunities to participate;
16. Considers that pirating and counterfeiting of European products and brands by Chinese industries constitutes a serious violation of international trading rules; urges China to considerably improve the protection of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and foreign inventions; calls on China to uphold current laws regarding the protection of IPR; welcomes the creation of an IPR chair at the University of Beijing;
17. Recognises the importance of Market Economy Status (MES) for China; underlines, however, the fact that MES is an economic rather than a political instrument; urges China to reduce state interference in the economy and to improve its performance as regards the uneven compliance with corporate governance and accounting systems and the ineffective bankruptcy framework;

18. Notes that the recent problems in the footwear sector show the need for China to adopt a more adequate anti-dumping policy; stresses the urgency of such a policy in the light of China's WTO membership;
19. Calls on the Council and the Commission to recognise that the difficulties faced by the textile, clothing, and footwear sectors are systemic, and calls on the Commission, when revising its economic and trade strategy in relation to China, to correct the current imbalances and anticipate the challenges;
20. Calls on China to adopt an economic policy based more on social (education, health, pensions, etc.) and household consumption and less on investment and exports;
21. Calls on the Commission to support the Chinese authorities in their campaign against intellectual property rights violations and product piracy;

Internal situation

22. Shares the view that the future development of China is currently difficult to predict and will mainly depend on domestic issues such as the further smooth development of the economy and the gradual improvement of the living standards of the majority of the population;
23. Underlines the fact that the rapid socio-economic modernisation of the PRC should be combined with the necessary political pluralism and institutional modernisation and that it can amply nurture itself from indigenous sources such as the works of the liberal reformers of the late 19th century, and especially the basic thinking of Sun Yat-sen;
24. Notes that social security, health and safety in the workplace, the right to form trade unions, industrial relations and social dialogue represent major challenges for China's future; calls on China to comply with the framework provisions of the International Labour Organization regarding effective measures to combat all forms of modern slavery, child labour and exploitation, particularly of female workers, so as to ensure respect for the fundamental rights of workers and discourage social dumping; invites the Commission to initiate a structured dialogue with its Chinese counterparts in these fields;
25. Applauds the coming to an end of the appalling socio-economic discrimination against China's 150 million migrant labourers from the countryside, signalled by the new government guidelines officially published on 28 March 2006, although it is unfortunately still unclear whether the highly debatable registration system applied to them will remain in force;
26. Calls on the European Union to continue to keep the situation in Macao and Hong Kong under careful review and hopes that the encouraging aspects of the two experiences will serve as an example and a stimulus to move the Chinese political process forward;
27. Postulates that as long as the CCP is not subjected to the order of a constitutional state, the party will remain a state within the state and thus very vulnerable to serious instances of abuse of power such as the national evil of cadre corruption, such a situation undermining the chances of creating a society based on the rule of law;

28. Joins its voice to the criticism, expressed in Chinese lawyers' journals, that Article 126 of the Chinese Constitution should also include a prohibition on interference by the CCP or the Chinese government in the course of justice;
29. Expects fresh efforts to be made to strengthen the independence of the judiciary, and trusts that the gradual replacement of unqualified judges by competent jurists will curb the endemic corruption inside the judiciary and thus enhance popular trust in this fundamental state institution;
30. Welcomes the promise made by the President of the Supreme People's Court at the 10th National People's Congress that from July 2006 appeals against sentences imposing the death penalty will be conducted in open court; expects this promise to be acted upon;
31. Urges China to abolish the death penalty and declare an effective moratorium in respect of persons already sentenced; takes note of the significant signal given by Chinese jurists that the death penalty should be imposed only in cases of serious, violent crimes, by contrast with the present situation, in which 68 delicts are punishable by the death penalty, of which half do not involve capital offences; is concerned that China carries out far more executions than any other country in the world; calls on China to release its official figures for executions for the year 2005/2006;
32. Strongly supports the demand made by Professor Liu Renwen, jurist and member of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, for the illegal trade in the organs of executed people to be brought to an end, by imposing strict provisions and controls;
33. Is seriously concerned about the harsh action taken by the authorities against "agitators"; notes that, according to a Blue Paper emanating from the Beijing Academy of Social Sciences, reasons for mass protests have included especially grave environmental problems that have endangered the health and existence of many farmers in newly industrialised regions, and also shameful expropriations of farmland for building purposes, not to mention the arbitrariness and corruption of local authorities;
34. Welcomes the intention of the Chinese Government to bridge the growing income gap between the populations of the coastal regions and of the countryside, to tackle serious environmental problems, to demonstrate better stewardship of natural resources and to develop and stimulate more efficient technologies;
35. Draws attention to the impact of China's economic growth on natural resources and on the local and global environment; calls on the Chinese government to take all the necessary measures to protect the environment and in particular to ensure supplies of drinking water for the populace and take action in response to atmospheric pollution, and to conserve biodiversity; calls for an intensive dialogue between China and the European Union on natural resources and the environment;
36. Urges the authorities to supervise their investment programmes in favour of the countryside very carefully, in the light of the fear expressed by Chinese researchers that local party cadres interpret references to "new villages" as a call for building projects at the expense of the farmers, and in view of the established fact that, hitherto, only one fifth of state subsidies for the agrarian sector has actually reached the farmers entitled thereto;

37. Is very concerned about recent reports of continuing serious human rights abuses in Tibetan areas of China, including torture, arbitrary arrest and detention, house arrest and other non-judicial surveillance of dissidents, detention without public trial, repression of religious freedom and arbitrary restrictions on free movement; is deeply concerned about the intensification of the so-called “patriotic education” campaign since October 2005 in Tibet’s monasteries and nunneries, forcing Tibetans to sign declarations denouncing the Dalai Lama as a dangerous separatist and proclaiming Tibet to be “part of China”, including the arrest of monks from the Drepung Monastery in November 2005 for refusing to denounce the Dalai Lama; calls upon China to allow an independent body to have access to Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, the Panchen Lama of Tibet, and his parents, as requested by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child; calls upon the Chinese government to intensify its positive engagement in substantive negotiations regarding the demands of the Dalai Lama for autonomy for Tibet;
38. Takes note that China’s “one-child” policy has resulted in an imbalance in population distribution; urges China to recognise the fact that the future balance between the working and the non-working parts of the population will have huge economic effects; underlines the fact that the EU is also confronted with the problem of ageing; calls on China to rethink the concrete implementation of its “one-child” policy in order to tackle the economic and social disadvantages inherent in that policy;
39. Urges the Chinese authorities to provide for measures in national legislation to protect the welfare of, and prevent cruelty to, animals, especially as regards the rearing of animals farmed for their fur; urges China to stop abuse of animals for purposes of traditional medicine, as exemplified by the use of rhinoceros horn and bear bile;

Human rights

40. Underlines the fact that the upholding of basic rights by the PRC requires the setting-up of a Constitutional Court, without which constitutional amendments, such as that of March 2004 on human rights, remain largely symbolic;
41. Stresses that Chinese citizens should have a legal entitlement to their basic rights, and urges courts to fully address clear iniquities on the basis of the Constitution, thereby pursuing a healthy judicial process that is now, little by little, gaining momentum;
42. Draws attention to the need for the state to abstain from regulating religion and expressions thereof; affirms the need, particularly in the light of the discussions among Chinese officials about the definition of “religion” and especially “legal religion”, for a comprehensive law on religion meeting international standards and guaranteeing genuine religious freedom;
43. Deplores the contradiction between the constitutional freedom of belief (enshrined in Article 36 of the Constitution) and the ongoing interference of the State in the affairs of religious communities, in particular as regards the training, selection, appointment and political indoctrination of ministers of religion; deplores especially the fact that the State accords the right of legal existence to only five religions and, moreover, places them under the control of the corresponding Chinese “patriotic” religious associations, protecting only “normal” (zhengchang) religious activities and making their official registration subject to acceptance of the principles underlying the “Three Autonomies”;

44. Calls on the Council to inform Parliament regarding the measures taken to follow up the declaration made in its above-mentioned resolution of 8 September 2005 regarding the fates of various bishops incarcerated in the PRC for their religious convictions; moreover, calls on the PRC's authorities to release forthwith all those members of the Christian Church who are still unfairly incarcerated and persecuted;
45. Notes that there are currently more Christians across China worshipping in “illegal” places of worship (whether at Protestant house-churches or in “underground” Catholic groups loyal to the Vatican) than attending at “patriotic” places of worship, and that both groups of worshippers, composed as they are of law-abiding citizens, constitute no threat whatever to public security; calls on the Chinese Government to cease its persecution and imprisonment of such Christian groups; maintains that Christians who do not identify with the “patriotic churches” have the right to worship freely;
46. Deplores the serious violation of religious freedom brought about by the recent unlawful ordinations of bishops (30 April 2006, Kunming – Yunnan; 3 May 2006, Wuhan – Anhui), stemming not least from the strong pressures and the threats to which the Catholic clergy loyal to the Vatican was subjected by non-Church bodies;
47. Considers that the latest ordinations detract from the recent assertions by the Chinese authorities of their willingness to pave the way for a sincere and constructive dialogue between the PRC and the Holy See; points, therefore, to the need to respect the freedom of the Church and preserve the autonomy of its institutions from any external interference, which, as well as finding expression in gestures disavowing the demands negotiated by both sides, undermines confidence in reciprocal dialogue and advances in freedom in China;
48. Points out that the Special Rapporteur on Torture, after completing his mission, thanked the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for its cooperation, but rebuked the Ministries of State Security and Public Security for obstructing or restricting his attempts at fact-finding;
49. Is deeply concerned by the statement made by the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture that the practice of torture remains widespread in China, a reprehensible situation that is indeed increasingly recognised by Government officials and in reports, and also by the “palpable level of fear and self-censorship” observed by him during interviews with detainees;
50. Endorses the preliminary recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur to the Chinese government, e.g. on reforming criminal law by adding the crime of torture in accordance with the definition contained in the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and also establishing an independent complaints mechanism for detainees subjected to torture and ill treatment;
51. Calls on the Chinese Government to revise the verdicts handed down for the crime of “threatening public security”, given that, in an overwhelming majority of cases, the accused had done no more than courageously exercise their fundamental constitutional rights by openly criticising the policies of the Government and the CCP;
52. Once again calls on the Government of the PRC to improve the conditions of imprisonment in its jails and to cease and abolish the torture of detainees;

53. Regrets that no substantial progress has been made regarding the release of political prisoners incarcerated for their involvement in the Tiananmen Square demonstrations and, similarly, regrets that the Chinese authorities continue to ignore calls for a full and impartial inquiry into the events of 1989; calls for an official reassessment of the Tiananmen Square incident by the Chinese authorities, publication of the list of political prisoners and their unconditional release;
54. Joins with the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in urging the Chinese Government to abolish “Re-education through Labour” and similar forms of forced “re-education” of detainees in prisons, pre-trial detention centres and psychiatric hospitals;
55. Condemns in particular the existence of the Laogai labour camps across the country, in which the PRC detains pro-democracy activists, labour activists and members of minorities without a fair trial, forcing them to work in appalling conditions and without medical treatment; is deeply concerned by the fact that Laogai prisoners are forced to give up their religious freedom and their political views, that executions are still carried out in these camps, and that organs are illegally harvested from executed prisoners; is concerned that EU Member States may be importing sizeable quantities of goods produced or partially manufactured by forced labour in Chinese Laogai camps; welcomes the 2005 US House of Representatives' resolution condemning the Laogai as a tool for suppression maintained by the Chinese government; calls on China to give a written undertaking in relation to any given exported product that it has not been produced by forced labour in a Laogai camp and, if no such assurance can be given, insists that the Commission prohibit its importation into the EU;
56. Calls on the PRC to respect its international obligations under the 1951 Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol thereto, and to allow the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees full access to North Korean asylum seekers who may be in need of international protection;
57. Strongly condemns the detention and torture of Falun Gong practitioners in prisons, “Re-education through Labour” camps, psychiatric hospitals and “legal education schools”; is concerned about reports that organs of detained Falun Gong practitioners have been surgically removed and sold to hospitals; urges the Chinese Government to end the detention and torture of Falun Gong practitioners and to release them immediately;
58. Expresses its deep disquiet at the numerous violations of women’s and girls’ rights resulting from forced compliance with the Chinese Government’s family planning policy, including selective abortions, forced sterilisations, and the abandonment of girls on a massive scale;
59. Urges China without any further delay to ratify and implement the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
60. Agrees with the important message conveyed in the above-mentioned Reuters/BBC open letter – which was unfortunately withheld from the general public in China - that the current policy of censorship is hampering China’s political development;

61. Expresses deep disquiet at the current clamp-down in the PRC on freedom of expression and free access to the Internet; repeats its requests to Beijing to refrain from intimidating, cracking down on or imprisoning those who advocate freedom of expression, whether the repression is directed at journalists or human rights activists or whether it makes information impossible to use by blacking out websites that do not conform to state censorship; condemns, therefore, the Internet censorship law passed by the National People's Congress and the existence of systems of Internet censorship collectively known as the "Great Firewall of China"; calls in particular for the AsiaNews.it site to be allowed back onto the Web without delay – or at any rate no longer be blacked out – bearing in mind that, in addition to being an excellent source of information about Asia and human rights advocacy, it also helps to foster the dialogue between the Vatican and the PRC and hence the unity of the Chinese Church;
62. Expresses its concern at the irresponsible policies of major internet firms Yahoo and Google which have bowed directly and indirectly to Chinese government demands for censorship;
63. Calls on the Chinese authorities to re-open the office of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation in Beijing, so as to allow the Foundation to continue its work on development and democracy;
64. Recognises the rising influence of China globally but in particular in countries as diverse as Belarus, Venezuela, Sudan, Zimbabwe, Myanmar, Iran and North Korea, of whose human rights records the EU remains deeply critical;
65. Asks the Chinese authorities and the Council of the EU to improve the human rights dialogue by introducing simultaneous interpretation at meetings; requests that Members of the European Parliament be more actively involved in the human rights dialogue along with their Chinese parliamentary colleagues;
66. Regrets that the authorities in Xinjiang regularly group together individuals or organisations allegedly involved in the "three evils", making it difficult to determine whether particular raids, detentions or judicial punishments are targeted at those peacefully seeking to express their political and religious views or at those who have engaged in violence; regards as counterproductive the destruction by officials of Uighur books with a view to distorting historical facts and advocating ethnic separatism;
67. Looks forward to seeing the Chief Executive and all members of the Legislative Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region elected by means of an electoral system based on the principles of multi-party democracy, accountability of the government to the legislature and genuinely effective governance, which will confer a clear benefit on all the people of Hong Kong;

Foreign policy/Relations with neighbours

68. Draws attention to the concerns of the outside world, especially of Beijing's regional neighbours, concerning the double-digit increase in China's military spending every year since the mid-1990s; strongly recommends – as endorsed by numerous European Parliament resolutions - that the EU arms embargo against China remain intact until greater progress is made on human rights issues; recalls in this context the need to

include in further negotiations regarding the European Neighbourhood Policy and the Partnership and Cooperation Agreements, an adherence to the EU embargo on arms trading with the PRC;

69. Stresses the direct link between the obvious Chinese interest in gaining access to European military high technology and the lifting of the arms embargo against the PRC, a connection with significant consequences for the cohesion of the transatlantic relationship and the market position of the high-tech weapons industry in Europe;
70. Expresses concern at the depth of cooperation with China on the Galileo programme and calls for further safeguards to be introduced to ensure that China, or other partners, cannot transfer sensitive technologies used in the programme to military applications;
71. Observes that China's Anti-Secession Law of 14 March 2005 and the present stationing of more than 800 missiles on the south-east coast of the PRC facing Taiwan belie the principle of peaceful reunification; calls on China and Taiwan to establish mutual trust and respect and to seek common ground while setting aside differences, to put in place the necessary political basis for a peaceful and steady development of cross-Straits relations, to resume dialogue on those relations and to strengthen economic exchanges and cooperation, making progress in particular on the “three direct links” across the Taiwan Strait (mail, transport and trade);
72. Takes the view that, with regard to the possible option of a peaceful reunification process with the Chinese mainland, the will and approval of the 23 million citizens of Taiwan must surely be respected and taken into account in negotiations with China on Taiwan’s status; points out that the beginning of a genuine democratic process in the PRC would help to ease tensions and pave the way for the resumption of a substantive dialogue between the two sides;
73. Calls on China to support the possibility of observer status for Taiwan within the World Health Assembly, in order to protect the health of the people of Taiwan, of international representatives and foreign employees on the island, and of the entire population of the globe; recalls in this context that infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, SARS and, recently, avian influenza know no borders and require world-wide cooperation – also, and especially, with Taiwan as one of the most important international hubs in the Western Pacific; reiterates its call for Taiwan to be better represented in international fora and organisations, so as to put an end to the on-going unfair exclusion of 23 million people from the international community;
74. Concludes that the problematic relationship between Beijing and Tokyo springs from a sense of mutual challenge: Japan feels challenged by China’s economic rise and China by Japan’s pursuit of a larger and more active political role in the region; calls on each country to refrain from any action which might offend the historic memory or the sensibilities of the other;
75. Welcomes the American initiative of starting a strategic dialogue with Europe on China’s rise – a central new element in the policy of the “new” world towards the “old” – and encourages the European Union and its Member States to develop, together with the USA, a strategic consensus for dealing with China;

76. Highlights the global importance of China's existing and emerging energy relations; draws attention to the impact on the global energy market of the increase in China's energy consumption that will accompany its economic growth; calls on the Commission and the Council to include energy issues in their long-term strategy for EU-China relations and to raise this issue in their contacts with China where appropriate;
77. Recognizes the special economic importance of the African Continent for the PRC (30% of its oil imports/a growing market for Chinese military hardware), but also urges the Chinese leadership to uphold China's responsibilities as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council and to promote good governance, democracy, the rule of law, respect for human rights and conflict prevention in its relations with African states;
78. Encourages the authorities in China to play an active role in bringing about respect for human rights and democratic change in Burma/Myanmar;
79. Expects the PRC to apply its proclaimed opposition to terrorism and nuclear proliferation in a concrete manner in China's influential relations with Iran; emphasises that a decisive stance by the PRC on Iran would demonstrate China's willingness and ability to take on international responsibility;
80. Welcomes China's commitment to the Six-Party Talks, and urges the Chinese government to do more to promote security and stability in East Asia, particularly on the Korean Peninsula, and to play a more pro-active role in the promotion of democracy and respect for human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

Conclusions

81. Concludes that a credible, stable and responsible economic and trading relationship between the EU and China should be based, on the European side, on the development of a long-term strategy and, on the Chinese side, on the development of a solid investment climate, on improving legal security for foreign firms, on continuing to open its markets and, above all, on observance of fair and equitable trade rules and on implementation of the WTO rules, including compliance with the TRIPS agreements as regards the protection of IPR;
82. Draws the conclusion that China's internal situation should be improved by strengthening the indigenous process of democratisation, increasing the professionalism of the judiciary, abolishing the death penalty and implementing a general moratorium on capital punishment and, above all, by implementing the Government's social programme, endorsed by the 10th National People's Congress, in favour of the backward countryside in order to serve the Chinese population and to promote stability in the region, and also by minority protection and cultural diversity, especially in the regions of Tibet and Xinjiang;
83. Concludes that a credible and responsible human rights policy can be restored in China only by respecting the basic rights of its citizens, as enshrined in the Constitution of the People's Republic;
84. Comes to the conclusion that China can greatly contribute to credible, stable and

responsible foreign and neighbourly relations by acknowledging its key position as a serious stakeholder in the international law- and peace-promoting system, a major step that the EU can significantly promote by formulating a common strategic consensus on China with the USA;

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85. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States and the accession countries, the government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese National People's Congress, and the Taiwan authorities.

23.2.2006

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND MONETARY AFFAIRS

for the Committee on Foreign Affairs

on EU-China relations
(2005/2161(INI))

Draftsman: Karsten Friedrich Hoppenstedt

SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs calls on the Committee on Foreign Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Notes that the global trade and investment flows are intense and continue to grow, progressively intertwining the economies of the EU and the People's Republic of China (China); recalls that since 1978, total EU-China trade has increased by more than forty-fold and that China is the EU's second largest trading partner; recalls that in 2004, the EU became China's largest trading partner, ahead of the US and Japan, and that over the last five years, annual investment by EU companies in China averaged EUR 3,5 billion, bringing total stocks of EU Foreign Direct Investments to over EUR 30 billion;
2. Notes that in 2005, the Chinese trade balance amounted to USD102 billion, which is more than twice as much as in the previous benchmark year (USD 32 billion); that in 2005, currency reserves amounted to approximately USD 819 billion - an increase of USD 209 billion, compared to the previous year; that if this trend continues, China is likely to have at its disposal over USD 1 billion in foreign reserves at the end of 2006, making it the world's largest holder of foreign currency; that initial predictions for 2006 point to a capital inflow of some USD 50 billion, primarily in long-term direct private investments; welcomes in this connection the fact that China has started to relax pegging its currency (Renminbi) to the US dollar and is thus not opposed to a possible currency revaluation; considers that warnings about insufficient risk surcharges for lending operations should be taken seriously;
3. Would like to remind the Institutions of the EU and the Member State governments to take into consideration the interests of the Community; in particular, would like to point out that in a free trade environment, protectionist measures do not work but only serve to restrict free trade and consumer choice, drive up prices, and close down EU

businesses; notes that, in the long term, the total benefits derived from bilateral free trade are higher than the short term benefits of protectionism; would like to recall that the imposition of safeguard measures must be the consequence of an existing or immediate threat of market disruption; points out that, as far as China is concerned, it was always clear that market disruption has been neither threatened nor present; notes that in international trade planning, reliability, predictability, and compliance with contractual terms are of the highest priority; regards globalisation as a demand-shock in macroeconomics comparable to the invention of the steam-engine or the loom; therefore recommends a structural change, which must be made socially compatible by the use of transitional periods; recalls that almost 50 trading enterprises from different EU countries have established a platform for monitoring social standards in supplier countries; notes that, in particular, cooperation with the supplier country China is very successful; notes that compliance with certain social standards will be a crucial condition of future EU-China trade;

4. Points out that, despite the recent changes, the pegging of the Renminbi to the dollar at a very low level is one of the most problematic aspects of China's relations with its international partners, which inevitably impacts the commercial and economic activities of the EU; takes the view that the EU should actively participate through the European Central Bank (ECB) in the dialogue concerning a revaluation of the Renminbi and support the gradual floating of control of the Renminbi, which will restore monetary equilibrium and reduce to a minimum turbulence in the Chinese economy;
5. Recommends that the European Regulatory Framework be adapted to structural changes in order to make vital savings and create an innovation-friendly environment as a precondition for the growth and competitiveness of the EU in competition with China;
6. Points out the significant increase in China's trade surplus, which has led to a great increase in its foreign currency reserves; applauds the decision of the Chinese Government to impose more stringent controls in order to restrict the influx of speculative capital and endorses the need to find more effective means of using the country's great foreign exchange reserves;
7. Recommends that measures be taken to press ahead with combating corruption in China so as to protect EU markets and the financial interests of the EU from fraud, counterfeiting, bribery and other kinds of financial crime;
8. Points out that financing productive investments, fostering innovation, supporting SMEs and promoting the insurance and pension markets all require sound, open and vibrant financial markets, as well as a currency policy ensuring fair global competition, which is properly regulated, with high standards of investor protection; welcomes the fact that since 2004 a structured dialogue has been held on competition matters between the EU and China and considers that the EU should assist China on matters of general competition policy and in legal and technical matters concerning competition policy;
9. Notes that while domestic firms still dominate the insurance sector, with a 90% market share, the market is growing by approximately 30% per annum, at the same time creating more opportunities for EU players; notes also that EU insurers are optimistic about their future prospects and that 2004 saw revenue growth rates for foreign insurers; recognizes the great efforts made by the Chinese authorities to publish regulations on

- the Management of Insurance Guarantee Funds, to approve domestic insurance funds to outside investments, in accordance with the China Insurance Regulatory Commission (CIRC) and the State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE); welcomes balanced competition between domestic and foreign insurers; therefore asks for additional clarifications to be made in the areas of life and non-life insurance as well as in the area of reinsurance; asks, in addition, that the market for bank-insurance joint ventures should be reviewed in order to develop an approach in line with international market standards;
10. Takes the view that, within the framework of efforts to modernise and liberalise the Chinese banking system, the EU should continue to work closely with the Chinese authorities with a view to adopting international accounting standards and the Basel II standards, which would ensure greater security for EU investors;
 11. Observes the impressive efforts made by the Chinese authorities to modernise their financial sector, and notes that although transitional adjustments may be difficult in the short term, the long-term positive impact will largely offset the investments; backs the EU strategy to strengthen co-operation through the launch of new dialogues, agreements and multiple business joint ventures;
 12. Notes that for years the Chinese banking system has been growing rapidly; that this has been accompanied by a gradual opening of the banking and financial sector to foreign interests; that this is taking place in accordance with the basic principles of the WTO Agreement and the transitional periods granted to China when it joined the WTO; that many Chinese commercial banks have already been authorised to work with foreign lenders; that, finally, more than 400 international banks and financial institutions have opened branches or representations in China; calls on China to continue this process, further to relax the remaining restrictions on foreign banks as regards customer transactions, areas of business and regional activities and ultimately to dismantle them altogether in order to create greater scope for development for foreign banks or banks with foreign capital participation; calls on China, furthermore, to allow all foreign or mixed banks to conduct customer transactions in the Renminbi, and, in the near future to lift all restrictions on Renminbi transactions by foreign banks throughout China; calls on China, furthermore, in addition to relaxing market access rules for foreign or mixed banks implemented introduced so far, also to relax controls on external financial institutions and, in this connection, to reduce the capital requirements for the establishment of foreign financial institutions from the present excessively high level so as to allow these undertakings effective market access;
 13. Welcomes the rapid modernisation of the Chinese financial sector; stresses, however, the utmost importance of ensuring a smooth transition to avoid any financial instability with possible repercussions across global financial markets; suggests, in particular, that a 'race to the bottom' involving harmful regulatory competition between global financial marketplaces, should be avoided; suggests, on the contrary, that major regulators worldwide should promote standards of the highest quality; recalls that the EU itself is committed to the global convergence of standards in the areas of accounting (International Financial Reporting Standards), audit (International Standards on Auditing), capital requirements for credit institutions (Basel II), money laundering and the fight against financing terrorism (Financial Action Task Force on Money

Laundering (FATF) recommendations) and securities market regulation (International Organization of Securities Commissions standards); points out that the EU would be ready to offer its experience and assistance to the Chinese authorities to implement convergence where necessary;

14. Very much appreciates the initiative of the Chinese and EU authorities and businesses to reinforce cooperation, notably through the establishment of an annual dialogue on macroeconomic and financial sector issues and the organisation of a capital markets roundtable, with the objective of creating platforms for discussing strategic financial regulatory issues between financial regulators and market participants; suggests that these discussions should focus on common regulatory issues facing policymakers on both sides and the influence of regulation on EU-Chinese commercial partnerships; also suggests that the huge challenges of growing interdependence of financial markets in a globalising business environment reinforces the need for policy makers and regulators to cooperate as early as possible on emerging issues; stresses the importance of the rapid evolution of Chinese and EU financial services industries, the importance of these markets for economic development, and the demands that these developments make on regulation and supervision; suggests that the emerging specific themes of mutual interest include:
 - strengthening upstream EU-China financial regulatory cooperation in the context of globalising financial markets,
 - general principles of financial regulation and the importance of effective enforcement,
 - banking securities, pension and investment fund reforms, and
 - corporate governance, accounting, auditing and anti-money laundering issues;
15. Stresses that the further improvement and development of financial markets in China require a reduction in restrictive bureaucratic mechanisms, greater transparency in the award of public contracts, especially as regards foreign enterprises, and a State aid policy which will ensure fair competition;
16. Considers that the global standards developed by the FATF must be used as the global benchmark and should be implemented worldwide; appreciates China's participation in the FATF as an observer and its commitment to implement the 40 revised Recommendations and 9 Special Recommendations;
17. Emphasises that the massive economic development of Chinese industry will inevitably lead to an increased demand for oil and thus an increase in oil prices; considers that the EU should pay particular attention to this parameter and work closely with the Chinese authorities to exchange expertise in sectors of renewable sources of energy and the adoption of common environmental and energy standards with a view to achieving sustainable development;
18. Notes the shift of the Chinese economy towards the sectors of technological innovation and research as China prepares for the 2008 Olympic Games, which has allowed substantial progress to be made in sectors of the Chinese economy such as

telecommunications, the automotive industry and transport; supports further cooperation and interaction between the EU and China in the fields of technology, research and development, with a view to boosting the competitiveness of both economies and promoting a knowledge-based society;

19. Believes that a mutually beneficial outcome of EU-China trade and investment relations requires not only mutual opening up of markets, but also an ongoing commitment on both sides to recognise and respect intellectual property rights, competition rules and social and environmental standards;
20. Takes the view that, owing to the global interpenetration of capital and financial markets, one-sided currency moves by the Chinese national bank may have substantial consequences for the EU; recommends, therefore, closer cooperation between the ECB and the Chinese Central Bank to discuss questions of financial stability, economic growth, exchange rates and the creation of reserves;
21. Believes that WTO membership will support and accelerate China's own process of economic reform and development, and that it will strengthen EU-China relations, for example as regards access to product and services markets and the enforcement of intellectual property rights with due respect for international standards; applauds Chinese policy which is based on the rationalisation of quotas, the reduction of import and export barriers and the gradual liberalisation of services; calls on the Commission to continue to negotiate with the Chinese Government about the further removal of restrictive rules on foreign investors and the persistent protectionism in certain sectors;
22. Would like to recall, while respecting China's commitments and noting its membership of the WTO, that the EU is one of the most open markets in the world; offers its experience in creating the internal market to assist and strengthen China's own process of economic reform and development; suggests that in this process, a key objective should be to ensure that market opening is fair and that no unnecessary burdens are imposed on foreign players willing to participate to the Chinese market;
23. Notes that the very rapid development of the Chinese automotive market in recent years has contrasted markedly with largely static markets elsewhere in the world; also notes that, between 1999 and 2003, China more than tripled its output of passenger cars and doubled its production of trucks; considers that in the long term, China's rapid economic development is likely to be reflected in a continuing increased demand for vehicles, and notes that some forecasts see China becoming the second largest vehicle market worldwide by 2006; notes that China constitutes one of the most promising emerging markets for EU automotive manufacturers and consequently has already attracted a high level of EU investment since the early 1990s; points out that obstacles encountered by EU vehicle manufacturers in China take many forms, including substantial non-tariff barriers (NTBs); asks therefore to continue close monitoring of Chinese business and regulatory developments with a view to assessing the likelihood of success of a possible WTO dispute settlement if the situation does not improve;
24. Deplores the large number of counterfeit products produced and sold in China and the fact that sales of these counterfeit products are steadily increasing, since this is a source of unease for EU producers as regards investing their know-how in the Chinese market; welcomes in this connection the line taken by Chinese civil courts, which have very

recently adopted a tougher approach to cases of product pirating and hopes that this intervention by the Chinese authorities will be extended to the entire Chinese territory and cover all types of goods and the trade in these goods;

25. Considers it useful not only to promote further cooperation between the EU and China as regards public services, but also to promote reciprocal cooperation at private enterprise level so that common standards of commercial conduct gradually develop;
26. Stresses the need for increased coordination in the commodity markets in order to identify in advance, and avoid, supply bottlenecks and significant price fluctuations.

PROCEDURE

Title	EU-China relations		
Procedure number	2005/2161(INI)		
Committee responsible	AFET		
Opinion by Date announced in plenary	ECON 29.9.2005		
Enhanced cooperation – date announced in plenary	No		
Drafts(wo)man Date appointed	Karsten Friedrich Hoppenstedt 25.10.2005		
Previous drafts(wo)man			
Discussed in committee	22.11.2005	24.1.2006	13.2.2006
Date adopted	20.2.2006		
Result of final vote	+	27	
	-	2	
	0	0	
Members present for the final vote	Zsolt László Becsey, Pervenche Berès, Sharon Bowles, Udo Bullmann, Ieke van den Burg, David Casa, Jonathan Evans, José Manuel García-Margallo y Marfil, Jean-Paul Gauzès, Robert Goebbels, Gunnar Hökmark, Karsten Friedrich Hoppenstedt, Sophia in 't Veld, Wolf Klinz, Guntars Krasts, Astrid Lulling, Cristobal Montoro Romero, Joseph Muscat, John Purvis, Karin Riis-Jørgensen, Dariusz Rosati, Peter Skinner, Margarita Starkevičiūtė, Sahra Wagenknecht		
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Harald Ettl, Klaus-Heiner Lehne, Thomas Mann, Diamanto Manolakou, Corien Wortmann-Kool		
Substitute(s) under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote			
Comments (available in one language only)			

PROCEDURE

Title	EU–China relations		
Procedure number	2005/2161(INI)		
Committee responsible	AFET		
Date authorisation announced in plenary	29.9.2005		
Committee(s) asked for opinion(s)	ECON	INTA	
Date announced in plenary	29.9.2005	29.9.2005	
Not delivering opinion(s)	INTA		
Date of decision	11.10.2005		
Enhanced cooperation			
Date announced in plenary			
Rapporteur(s)	Bastiaan Belder		
Date appointed	6.9.2005		
Discussed in committee	2.5.2006	20.6.2006	12.7.2006
Date adopted	12.7.2006		
Result of final vote	+ 42 - 14 0 2		
Members present for the final vote	Vittorio Agnoletto, Angelika Beer, Panagiotis Beglitis, Bastiaan Belder, André Brie, Elmar Brok, Marco Cappato, Philip Claeys, Simon Coveney, Véronique De Keyser, Giorgos Dimitrakopoulos, Camiel Eurlings, Jas Gawronski, Maciej Marian Giertych, Ana Maria Gomes, Alfred Gomolka, Klaus Hänsch, Richard Howitt, Anna Ibrisagic, Toomas Hendrik Ilves, Georgios Karatzaferis, Ioannis Kasoulides, Bogdan Klich, Vytautas Landsbergis, Cecilia Malmström, Willy Meyer Pleite, Francisco José Millán Mon, Pasqualina Napoletano, Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne, Raimon Obiols i Germà, Cem Özdemir, Tobias Pflüger, Mirosław Mariusz Piotrowski, Paweł Bartłomiej Piskorski, Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, Raül Romeva i Rueda, José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra, Jacek Emil Saryusz-Wolski, István Szent-Iványi, Konrad Szymański, Antonio Tajani, Charles Tannock, Paavo Väyrynen, Inese Vaidere, Geoffrey Van Orden, Josef Zieleniec		
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Laima Liucija Andrikiienė, Árpád Duka-Zólyomi, Milan Horáček, Georg Jarzembowski, Tunne Kelam, Achille Occhetto, Doris Pack, Athanasios Pafilis, Aloyzas Sakalas, Anders Samuelsen		
Substitute(s) under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote	Fernando Fernández Martín, Mario Mauro		
Date tabled – A6	20.7.2006		