



Doc. 12770

12 October 2011

Vukovar 1991 – 2011

Motion for a resolution

tabled by Mr Miljenko DORIĆ and other members of the Assembly

This motion has not been discussed in the Assembly and commits only those who have signed it

The Parliamentary Assembly welcomes the progress made by the states of the former Yugoslavia on co-operation in the prosecution of war crimes. However, one exemption is absolutely unjustified.

In November 2011 twenty years will have passed since the Vukovar tragedy. About 10000 shells fell on the town every day during the 87 day siege. 3000 people died, more than 2500 were listed as missing, 17000 were wounded and 20000 inhabitants had to leave Vukovar as the consequence of ethnic cleansing.

Even if there have been several convictions for crimes committed after the siege, the main perpetrators of the war crimes committed in Vukovar have still not been brought to justice and are still at large. The Chief of the General Staff of the Yugoslav People's Army in 1991 has found safe haven in a member state of the Council of Europe that has granted him citizenship.

The primary role of the International Criminal Court for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) is to indict and bring to justice the perpetrators of the gravest crimes. However, there were no convictions by the ICTY for wanton destruction of Vukovar, murders, persecutions, deportation, plunder of public and private property, inhuman acts, cruel treatment and other grave crimes committed during the siege.

The Assembly draws attention to its [Recommendation 1427 \(1999\)](#) on the respect for international humanitarian law in Europe, [Resolution 1564 \(2007\)](#) on prosecution of offences falling within the jurisdiction of the ICTY, [Resolution 1785 \(2011\)](#) and [Recommendation 1953 \(2011\)](#) on the obligation of member and observer states of the Council of Europe to co-operate in the prosecution of war crimes, stressing that impunity should be fought resolutely. It therefore recommends that the reasons for the lack of progress on bringing to justice the perpetrators of the serious crimes committed during the siege of Vukovar be investigated.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

DORIĆ Miljenko, Croatia, ALDE
ANDERSON Donald, United Kingdom, SOC
BRAUN Márton, Hungary, EPP/CD
DONALDSON Jeffrey, United Kingdom, EDG
DUNDEE Alexander, [The Earl of], United Kingdom, EDG
ECCLES Diana, United Kingdom, EDG
FALZON Joseph, Malta, EPP/CD
FERIĆ-VAC Mirjana, Croatia, SOC
FLEGO Gvozden Srećko, Croatia, SOC
FLYNN Paul, United Kingdom, SOC
GARDETTO Jean-Charles, Monaco, EPP/CD
HARANGOZÓ Gábor, Hungary, SOC
KRIŠTO Borjana, Bosnia and Herzegovina, EPP/CD
LAVTIŽAR-BEBLER Darja, Slovenia, SOC
MATUŠIĆ Frano, Croatia, EPP/CD
PEJČINOVIĆ-BURIĆ Marija, Croatia, EPP/CD
PRESEČNIK Jakob, Slovenia, EPP/CD
RIHTER Andreja, Slovenia, SOC
SASI Kimmo, Finland, EPP/CD
SZABÓ Vilmos, Hungary, SOC
TOSHEV Latchezar, Bulgaria, EPP/CD
VAREIKIS Egidijus, Lithuania, EPP/CD

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EDG: European Democrat Group
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialist Group