



## Resolution 1050 (1994)<sup>1</sup>

# Rwanda and the prevention of humanitarian crises

## Parliamentary Assembly

1. With reference to the Council of Europe's mandate to protect human rights and democratic principles, the Assembly observes that these rights and principles transcend the boundaries of Europe and should be seen in a context of worldwide interdependence and solidarity, in conformity with the declaration of the Committee of Ministers of 5 May 1989 on the future role of the Council of Europe in European construction and with the Vienna Declaration of 9 October 1993
2. Adopting this global perspective, the Assembly regrets that the international community has been unable to prevent the massacres in Rwanda. It does, however, appreciate the commitment of a number of countries which, acting on the basis of a United Nations mandate, have helped or are helping to protect the civilian population and provide humanitarian assistance.
3. The Assembly expresses its great respect to both governmental and non-governmental organisations for the exemplary work they are doing on the spot, in conditions which are as difficult as they are dangerous.
4. The Assembly welcomes the holding of the international Conference on Rwanda in its regional context: human rights, reconciliation and rehabilitation (The Hague, 16-17 September 1994), and supports The Hague Appeal adopted at the end of the conference. It considers that in order to make this Appeal effective, follow-up measures, of which it asks to be informed, should be adopted as soon as possible.
5. The Assembly considers that the Council of Europe, particularly through its North-South Centre in Lisbon, should step up its links with the countries of Africa in order to strengthen its partnership with Africa and help to ensure respect for human rights that continent. In this context the Assembly refers to the texts it has already adopted on this subject, namely [Recommendation 962 \(1983\)](#), [Recommendation 1062 \(1987\)](#) and [Order No. 434 \(1987\)](#), [Resolution 928 \(1989\)](#), [Resolution 981 \(1992\)](#) and [Resolution 1006 \(1993\)](#), and regrets that appropriate action to follow up its proposals has not been taken.
6. The Parliamentary Assembly therefore:
  - 6.1. asks the Government of Rwanda:
    - a. to guarantee the safety of the refugees who return to the country, to prevent any act of revenge against them and to take any necessary steps to restore confidence to the population;
    - b. to enter into national political discussions with a view to setting up a democratic and pluralist system of government, obtaining, if possible, the agreement of the different ethnic groups;
    - c. to encourage the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to continue to visit the places of detention of prisoners of war and police stations, and to allow international observers to visit other places of detention;
  - 6.2. appeals to the member states of the Council of Europe to use their influence within the United Nations Security Council with a view to:
    - a. setting up machinery making possible rapid and effective intervention by a United Nations force to prevent humanitarian crises;

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1. See [Doc. 7191](#), report of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Demography, rapporteur: Mr Flückiger. Text adopted by the Standing Committee, acting on behalf of the Assembly, on 10 November 1994.



