Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Recommendation 2096 (2016)[1]

The situation in Aleppo

Parliamentary Assembly

1. The Parliamentary Assembly refers to Resolution 2138 (2016) on the situation in Aleppo, a Syrian city which has become the epicentre of the Syrian war, one of the worst humanitarian crises since the Second World War. The Assembly fears that the escalation of violence and the magnitude of the crisis could lead to even deeper conflicts in Syria and in the whole region, in particular in Iraq, and represent a threat to worldwide security.

2. The Assembly reiterates that an inclusive, Syrian-led political process leading to a genuine political transition must meet the legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people and enable them to determine their own future independently and democratically, through free and fair elections, after the country has been stabilised.

3. Fully supporting the United Nations Special Envoy for Syria, Mr Staffan de Mistura, in his efforts to create the conditions for the resumption of intra-Syrian talks, in line with United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2254 (2015) and 2268 (2016) and the Action Group for Syria's Geneva Communiqué of 30 June 2012, the Assembly calls on the Committee of Ministers to:

3.1. ask the governments of the Council of Europe member States to take action in line with the Assembly's position, as expressed in paragraph 8 of its Resolution 2138 (2016);

3.2. urge the Russian Federation, the United States of America and all parties involved in the conflict to search for a common position and take joint international action;

3.3. open a discussion on the condemnation of war crimes committed by the military, which have destroyed civilian and humanitarian installations in Aleppo, causing heavy casualties.

1. *Text adopted by the Standing Committee*, acting on behalf of the Assembly, on 25 November 2016 (see Doc. 14197, report of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, rapporteur: Mr Jean-Claude Mignon).