

PROPOSAL FOR A RESOLUTION [3.1] OF THE UEF FEDERAL COMMITTEE ON THE EU-MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA (MENA) RELATIONS – THE EU NOT ONLY A PAYER BUT ALSO A PLAYER

Presented by Bogdan Birnbaum

- 1 The UEF Federal Committee, meeting in Berlin on 22 April 2018,
- 2 in reference to:
 - 3 - the resolution on the EU Global Strategy adopted by the UEF XXV European Congress on 12
 - 4 June 2016 in Strasbourg;
 - 5 - the resolution on re-launching Europe's foreign policy and defence policy adopted by the UEF
 - 6 Federal Committee on 14 June 2014 in Brussels;
 - 7 - the resolution on Europe Defence adopted by the UEF Federal Committee on 13 April 2013 in
 - 8 Brussels;
 - 9 - the resolution on the European Response to the Middle East Crisis adopted by the UEF
 - 10 Federal Committee, meeting in Brussels on 25-26 November 2006;
 - 11 - the resolution on International Terrorism adopted by UEF Federal Committee on meeting in
 - 12 21 March 2004 in Genoa;
- 13 having regard to:
 - 14 - the Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign And Security Policy of June 2016;
 - 15 - the revision of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP);
 - 16 - the Union of Mediterranean;
 - 17 - the EU agenda for Migration;
 - 18 - the European Agenda on Security;
 - 19 - the European Commission EU Defence Action Plan;
 - 20 - the European Commission "Trade for all" strategy;
- 21 whereas:
 - 22 - the Mediterranean, Middle East and parts of sub-Saharan Africa are in turmoil;
 - 23 - solving conflicts and promoting development and human rights in the MENA region is
 - 24 essential for addressing the threat of terrorism, the challenges of demography, migration and
 - 25 climate change, and to seizing the opportunity of shared prosperity;
- 26 **The EU and the Middle-East and North Africa (MENA) region**
 - 27 ○ the EU should continue to have strong bonds across the Middle East and North Africa;
 - 28 ○ the EU should be furnishing substantial aid in the fields of security and economy, provided
 - 29 that the MENA countries make a clear choice for peace and stability;

- 30 ○ the EU can best react to this and other international challenges by speaking with one voice; in
31 this context the UEF Federal Committee recalls UEF's strong support for a single EU seat in the
32 UN Security Council;
- 33 ○ the EU should convey a Conference for Security and Cooperation in the Middle East and
34 North Africa, which includes all states of the region in the context of the Quartet Peace
35 Process, tackling human rights, socio-economic and security issues, including the problem of
36 nuclear disarmament and promoting democracy throughout the region;
- 37 ○ the MENA region should start a regional integration process on the model of the European
38 one, beginning with Israel, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Jordan, as an indispensable prerequisite to
39 further develop stability in the region;
- 40 ○ the EU priorities for stability and security in the region, control of the flow of illegal migration
41 and the protection of EU economic interests should go hand in hand with the human rights
42 and promotion of democracy. This can be achieved by mobilising EU bilateral and multilateral
43 policies and frameworks as well as by partnering with civil societies in the region;
- 44 ○ the EU should have a coherent strategy towards the MENA region based on a two pillars:
- 45 - bilateral relations in the framework of the revised ENP - strengthening the rule of
46 law, democracy and economy in the MENA countries;
- 47 - multilateral relations through the Union for the Mediterranean (UoM) - promoting
48 regional cooperation by considering different meeting formats (only Arab countries,
49 Arab countries plus Israel);
- 50 ○ the UoM should focus on issues such as border security, trafficking, counter-terrorism, non-
51 proliferation, water and food security, energy and climate, infrastructure and disaster
52 management;
- 53 ○ in the context of the UoM, the EU should further deepen tailor-made partnerships by
54 supporting countries in implementing association agreements, including Deep and
55 Comprehensive Free Trade Areas (DCFTAs). Possibilities include the creation of an economic
56 area, the extension of Trans-European Networks and the Energy Community, as well as
57 building physical and digital connections. Societal links should also be strengthened through
58 enhanced mobility, cultural and educational exchanges, research cooperation and civil society
59 platforms;
- 60 ○ the EU should cooperate with both Sunni Countries (e.g. Saudi Arabia, Egypt) and Shia
61 countries. The EU should support the democratisation of dictatorship regimes in Sunni
62 countries as well as contain the Iranian hegemonic ambitions in the region;
- 63 ○ the EU should strengthened its operational cooperation with the League of Arab States,
64 particularly in the fields of conflict prevention, early warning and crisis management,
65 humanitarian assistance, counter-terrorism, non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction
66 and arms control. In this context the UEF welcomes the creation of two further Working
67 Groups on international migration and fighting against transnational organised crime;
- 68 ○ the EU should pursue balanced engagement in the Gulf by continuing the cooperation with
69 the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and individual Gulf countries. It will deepen dialogue with

- 70 the GCC countries on regional conflicts, human rights and counter-terrorism, seeking to
71 prevent contagion of existing crises and foster the space for cooperation and diplomacy;
- 72 ○ in light of the growing interconnections between North and sub-Saharan Africa, as well as
73 between the Horn of Africa and the Middle East (the Neighbours of the EU's Neighbours), the
74 EU should support cooperation across these sub-regions;

75 **EU, ISIS and international terrorism**

- 76 ○ terrorism is threatening Europe, as demonstrated by the horrible attacks in recent years;
- 77 ○ the phenomenon of terrorism in Europe is one of the most evident symptoms of the
78 incapability of the European Union to guarantee internal peace and external security;
- 79 ○ the current provisions for co-operation among national police forces are totally inadequate
80 to guarantee the security of the European citizens, preventing the Union from speaking with
81 a single voice in the world;
- 82 ○ the EU needs to allocate adequate tools for fighting terrorism internally and, externally, with
83 the financial, diplomatic and security resources necessary to support an initiative for peace
84 and development in the Mediterranean;
- 85 ○ the UEF welcomes the EU actions to counter ISIS, the autonomous sanctions regime to
86 target ISIS and the Syria and Iraq: Counter Terrorism/Foreign Fighters Strategy, however calls
87 for the establishment of a European FBI and CIA, starting from giving executive powers to
88 EUROPOL;

89 **EU's role in the Middle East peace process**

- 90 A just and durable peace in the Middle East is to be founded on the basis of a regional project
91 characterised by:
- 92 ○ the end of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, based on the two-State-solution, as foreseen in the
93 UN resolutions;
- 94 ○ the EU should work closely with the Quartet and the Arab League to preserve the prospect of
95 a viable two-state solution based on 1967 lines with equivalent land swaps, and to recreate
96 the conditions for meaningful negotiations. The EU will also promote full compliance with
97 European and international law in deepening cooperation with Israel and the Palestinian
98 Authority;
- 99 ○ the EU should use at full its political leverage over the Palestinian leaders to continue
100 negotiations, its massive financial aid to bring more positive effects on the standards of living
101 and well-being of the Palestinian people;
- 102 ○ the EU should not shy away from using its extensive trade and contractual relations with
103 Israel to compel that country to restrict its military operations and halt its settlements policy
104 and convince the Israeli to resume negotiations;

105 **EU and its bilateral relations with key players in the region**

- 106 ○ **SYRIA** - the EU's strategic objectives in Syria should be focused on two key areas: an end to the
107 war through a genuine political transition, in line with UNSCR 2254 and the Geneva
108 Communiqué, and save lives by addressing the humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable
109 Syrians across the country in a timely, effective, efficient and principled manner. Promote
110 democracy, human rights and freedom of speech by strengthening Syrian civil society
111 organisations. Promote accountability for war crimes with a view to facilitating a national
112 reconciliation process and transitional justice and support the resilience of the Syrian
113 population and Syrian society.
- 114 ○ **IRAN**. Building on the Iran nuclear deal and its implementation, the EU should also gradually
115 engage Iran on areas such as human rights, rule of law, trade, energy and societal exchanges.
116 Relations between the EU and Iran have been through different stages and most recently, over
117 the last decade, conditioned by the international dispute over Iran's nuclear programme.
- 118 ○ **LYBIA**. The EU should promote security, stability and order in post-War Libya. Through
119 diplomatic action and concrete support, the EU should assist Libya's transition towards a stable,
120 functioning country and support the UN mediation efforts in this regard. The EU should
121 continue providing assistance to the Libyan people through a set of measures, including
122 supporting a political transition and a negotiated settlement acceptable to all legitimate groups
123 in the country,
- 124 ○ **IRAQ**. War and internal conflicts have led to a lot of turmoil in Iraq in recent years. The EU
125 should continue to give humanitarian assistance, developing political and electoral processes,
126 promoting human rights and the rule of law, developing civil society organisations, and
127 providing basic services such as water supply, health and education.
- 128 ○ **AFGHANISTAN**. The EU should continue to engage with the Afghan Government to fight
129 corruption, improve oversight, enable economic growth, reduce poverty and strengthen
130 democratic institutions. The EU, as a whole, is the largest development cooperation partner of
131 Afghanistan.
- 132 ○ **EGYPT**. The EU should support Egypt's efforts to address a number of critical areas including
133 economic development, education, health, energy, transport, environment, climate action,
134 information society, research and innovation. In the context of the EU-Egypt Association
135 Agreement the EU has the opportunity to promote the rule of law, the democratization of the
136 country and at the same time protecting its citizens (cf. murder of Giulio Regeni).

AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSAL FOR A RESOLUTION 3.1.

Amendment n.	1	<i>submitted by Domènec Ruiz Devesa</i>	
Line number(s):	3-12		
Original text		Amended text	
		<i>Change order from older to more recent.</i>	

Amendment n.	2	<i>submitted by Andreas Neocleous</i>	
Line number(s):	19		
Original text		Amended text	
the European Commission EU Defence Action Plan		the European Commission EU Defence Action Plan/ Energy Plan	

Amendment n.	3	<i>submitted by Domènec Ruiz Devesa</i>	
Line number(s):	22		
Original text		Amended text	
The Mediterranean, Middle East and parts of sub-Saharan Africa are in turmoil;		The Mediterranean, Middle East and parts of sub-Saharan Africa, all of them areas of strategic importance for Europe , are in turmoil;	

Amendment n.	4	<i>submitted by Domènec Ruiz Devesa</i>	
Line number(s):	37		
Original text		Amended text	
The MENA region can should start a regional integration process		The MENA region could benefit from starting a regional integration process	

Amendment n.	5	<i>submitted by Domènec Ruiz Devesa</i>	
Line number(s):	40		
Original text		Amended text	
Control of the flow of illegal migration		Management of migration flows	

Amendment n.	6	<i>submitted by Domènec Ruiz Devesa</i>
Line number(s):	44	
	Original text	Amended text
	On a two pillars	On two pillars

Amendment n.	7	<i>submitted by Domènec Ruiz Devesa</i>
Line number(s):	47, 50	
	Original text	Amended text
	UoM	UfM

Amendment n.	8	<i>submitted by Domènec Ruiz Devesa</i>
Line number(s):	52	
	Original text	Amended text
	<i>Addition at the end of the line</i>	And educational and cultural cooperation

Amendment n.	9	<i>submitted by Domènec Ruiz Devesa</i>
Line number(s):	58, 59	
	Original text	Amended text
	Research cooperation and civil society platforms	Research cooperation, such as PRIMA , and civil society platforms

Amendment n.	10	<i>submitted by Domènec Ruiz Devesa</i>
Line number(s):	63	
	Original text	Amended text
	Strengthened	Strengthen

Amendment n.	11	<i>submitted by Domènec Ruiz Devesa</i>
Line number(s):	67	
Original text		Amended text
Fighting		The fight

Amendment n.	12	<i>submitted by Domènec Ruiz Devesa</i>
Line number(s):	78	
Original text		Amended text
Incapability of the European Union to guarantee internal peace		Incapability of the EU Member States to guarantee alone internal peace

Amendment n.	13	<i>submitted by Domènec Ruiz Devesa</i>
Line number(s):	86	
Original text		Amended text
Target ISIS and the Syria		Target ISIS in Syria

Amendment n.	14	<i>submitted by Domènec Ruiz Devesa</i>
Line number(s):	104	
Original text		Amended text
Convince the Israeli		Convince the Israelis

Amendment n.	15	<i>submitted by Domenico Moro</i>
Line number(s):	105 to 136	
Original text	Amended text	
Delete all lines	Insert: Having regard to the statement of the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Federica Mogherini - when submitting the Global Strategy for the EU, "Shared vision, Common Action: A Stronger Union" -, when she made clear, for the first time, the principle of the "strategic autonomy for the European Union" in the defence field and that, in a speech at the European Parliament, she has underlined "the political will to make of security and defence in the European	

	<p>Union one of the fields where the Council wants to re-launch the European Union integration process”;</p> <p>Recalling the following steps toward a European defence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The institution, for the first time, since the existence of a European budget, of a European Defence Fund; - The institution of a “military planning and conduct capability” concerning the so-called non-executive missions (peace-keeping operations); - The launching of the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO); - The adoption of a roadmap for the implementation of the Permanent Structured Cooperation; - The presentation of the Action Plan on Military Mobility; <p>However reminds that these are important, but not sufficient, steps toward an autonomous European defence;</p> <p>Stresses that the current direct European military expenses will achieve 10 billions of euro and that, above all, the indirect – and then non-transparent – European military expenses (that is, European multinational military operations) have attended an amount of more than 35 billions euros;</p> <p>Call for the following steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The extension of the Eurocorps Treaty to the participants of the PESCO and its inclusion on the European treaties, in order to assure a democratic control by the European Parliament; - The extension of the European military staff’s responsibility to the so-called executive missions (peace-enforcing operation); - The creation of a single European Defence Fund in order to convey the funds currently spent for the common defence through multinational military operations, as requested by the EP resolution on the next MFF, approved on March 14th, or the activation of a European fund according to art. 41.3 of the Treaty on European Union.
<p>Explanatory statement:</p> <p>Unnecessary (they are a duplication of statements included in the precedent paragraphs), while is important take a position on the recent and very important steps toward a European defence. In alternative, the attached file can be added to the text of the resolution or transformed in a separate resolution.</p>	

Amendment n.	16	<i>submitted by Domènec Ruiz Devesa</i>
Line number(s):	124	
	Original text	Amended text
	Addition after “recent years”.	Though thankfully a new, more positive era has dawned with the defeat of ISIS