



**PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN**  
**ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA MEDITERRANEE**  
الجمعية البرلمانية للبحر الأبيض المتوسط

**1<sup>st</sup> Standing Committee on Political and Security related Cooperation**

“Political and security developments in the MENA region”

Rapporteur: Sen. Mohamed Alami (Morocco)

**Resolution adopted on 20 February 2020 during the 14<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session in Athens**

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean,

- a) *Deeply concerned* about the prolonged and acute conflicts and crises affecting the Euro-Mediterranean region;
- b) *Convinced* that security within the Euro-Mediterranean region is deeply intertwined, and that collective efforts at multiple levels of dialogue, including parliamentary diplomacy, aimed at sustainable peace, are necessary to find political solutions to ongoing crises and long-term disputes;
- c) *Alarmed* by the escalation of the internal conflict in Libya, which poses an obstacle to the process of national reconciliation efforts, facilitated by the UN and supported by the international community;
- d) *Sharing* the concern expressed by the UN Secretary General about the increased military involvement of foreign actors, private military contractors, the use of drones, as well as the repeated open violations of the UN arms embargo for Libya;
- e) *Regretting* the lack of progress in the UN-led peace process in the Middle East, for a Two-State solution between Israel and Palestine, also in consideration of the Israeli settlement policy in the occupied Palestinian territories;
- f) *Rejecting* any plan or procedure to annex the Jordan Valley, North Dead Sea and settlements, which are contrary to the UN Resolutions and international law;
- g) *Strongly convinced* that the status quo in the Middle East is detrimental for the long-term peace and stability of the wider Euro-Mediterranean region;
- h) *Rejecting* all foreign interference in the internal affairs of the PAM member countries;

- i) *Observing* the ongoing military operations in various parts of Syria, *with particular concern* for civilian casualties, destruction of civilian infrastructures, internally displaced persons, and refugees, and for the stability of the Syrian State;
  - j) *Concerned* about the implication of potential crisis in water supply which could affect the Nile region as result of new dams being erected over its course, without coordination with the downstream countries nor conducting environmental or social studies on the potential impacts of these dams on the peoples of the countries concerned;
  - k) *Deeply concerned* about the scarcity of water facing the Mediterranean region, and *stressing* on the importance of pooling efforts to counter this phenomenon in order to maintain the sustainability of the available water resources and the use of technological means to develop water resource management in the countries of the region;
  - l) *Alarmed* by the dramatic increase of instability, violence, and terrorist activity in the Sahel region;
  - m) *Convinced* of the fundamental role that parliamentary diplomacy plays in facilitating parallel tracks of dialogue, offering the necessary flexibility to seek common ground and build confidence to support efforts aimed at achieving and strengthening peace and security;
  - n) *Convinced* of the strategic scope of the Algiers Agreement (2015) for peace and reconciliation in Mali and the entire Sahel region;
- I. ***Reaffirms*** its intention to continue closely monitoring all the conflicts, crises, and major political developments occurring in the Euro-Mediterranean region;
  - II. ***Calls on*** all actors involved in armed conflicts in the region, to take steps to de-escalate violence, to refrain from any military action which may cause civilian casualties or displacement of people, and to seek political resolutions to conflict;
  - III. ***Calls on*** all actors to respect international law, including relevant UN Security Council resolutions, arms embargos, and respect the territorial sovereignty of states;
  - IV. ***Asserts*** its readiness to assist the UN, in follow-up of the Berlin conference on Libya, through a parliamentary support track;
  - V. ***Emphasizes*** the importance of supporting the political process through the full implementation of the Skhirat political agreement signed on 17 December 2015, which remains the only framework for ending the political crisis in Libya, as stipulated in UN Security Council Resolutions, and its implementation remains essential for the holding of elections and completion of the political transition process, as this agreement, thanks to its

flexibility, is capable of recognizing the new realities, which will bring the parties back to the table of political dialogue for a comprehensive political settlement in Libya;

- VI. ***Calls upon*** all regional parties to stop supporting the terrorist organizations, whether financially or materially, especially in Syria and Libya, and calls for confronting the regional states that facilitate the movement of terrorist elements from the hotbeds of conflict in Syria to Libya, as this poses a severe danger to the security and stability of all Mediterranean countries;
- VII. ***Stresses*** on the illegality of the two memoranda of understanding signed between the Turkish government and the President of the Libyan Presidential Council, Fayed Al-Sarraj, since the two memoranda contradict the Skhirat Agreement that stipulates that the international agreements be signed by the Libyan Presidential Council collectively and not by the Prime Minister individually, and be subject to approval by the Libyan House of Representatives as being the legal and competent entity to ratify such agreements;
- VIII. ***Reaffirms*** its position that a Two-State solution is the only way for both peoples, Israelis and Palestinians, to achieve their legitimate aspirations, to live side by side within safe and borders recognized by the international community (borders, 5 June 1967), in peace and security: the State of Israel and the independent State of Palestine, in accordance with the relevant international resolutions;
- IX. ***Shares and emphasizes*** the positions, worries, risks and concerns expressed by the United Nations, the League of Arab States and the European Union in relation to the US Administration peace plan “Deal of the Century”, and considers this proposal to be one sided and not in line with the UN Resolutions, and advocates for the Two-State solution as the only viable option to create a just, lasting and comprehensive peace, that adheres to the relevant UN Resolutions and principles of international law;
- X. ***Resolves*** to continue to act as platform for dialogue among relevant parties and stands ready to assist with any possible parliamentary initiative to support the resumption of direct negotiations for a two-state solution between Israel and Palestine;
- XI. ***Calls on*** those PAM members States, which have not yet recognised the State of Palestine, to recognise the State of Palestine, with Eastern Jerusalem as its capital, in order to boost the peace process;
- XII. ***Welcomes*** the launch of the Syrian Constitutional Committee, as a key step in advancing a viable and lasting Syrian-led, Syrian-owned and UN-facilitated political process in line with UN Security Council Resolution 2254;
- XIII. ***Confirms*** the need for full coordination among the Nile Basin countries in order to achieve the common interest, especially when setting up projects on the river so that the relevant principles of international law are observed;

- XIV. **Expresses** its appreciation for the role played by the United States and the World Bank in the negotiations related to the Renaissance Dam, in order to reach a comprehensive, fair and balanced agreement that would achieve the interests of Egypt, Sudan and Ethiopia concerning this vital issue that affects the entire region and particularly the Egyptian people for whom the River Nile constitutes the lifeline;
- XV. **Calls for** greater engagement of PAM with its southern neighbours in the Sahel and Sub Saharan regions, African regional organisations, and relevant actors working on security in these areas, such as the UN, the EU, the Arab League, the African Union and the NATO Strategic Direction South Hub, to promote closer coordination, dialogue, and cooperation on security matters;
- XVI. **Remains** committed to serve as an independent and impartial parliamentary platform for all its member countries to foster dialogue and confidence building aimed at peace and security through the instrument of parliamentary diplomacy.