

Resolution

The Foreign Affairs Committee,

whereas:

the Cambodian Supreme Court ordered the dissolution of the main opposition party, the Cambodian National Rescue Party (CNRP), by following a request from the Ministry of the Interior in relation to an alleged attempt to bring down the government with a popular revolution;

the ruling is widely considered as the result of a political use of the judiciary by the government and as a form of retaliation by the Prime Minister to punish the CNRP for opposing his constitutional reform;

with the dissolution of the CNRP any parliamentary opposition to the government and any obstacle to the reconfirmation of Prime Minister Hun Sen, uninterruptedly in power since 1985, will be eliminated, as the upcoming elections are scheduled for July 2018

the CNRP leader, Kem Sokha, has been arrested in violation of his parliamentary immunity: the CNRP dissolution infringes the principle itself of parliamentary representation on which all democracies are based, it interrupts the process of democratization of Cambodia and it turns the clock back before 1991, when the peace treaty was signed with the Paris Agreements;

the 55 seats taken from the CRNP have been redistributed to other parties without a new round of election;

commits the government:

to express in all appropriate bodies concern for the political repression in Cambodia and for the restrictive measures against political parties, political leaders, human rights organizations, newspapers and radio stations as well as concern for the arrest and detention of CRNP leader, Kem Sokha;

to ask for more and truthful information concerning the trial of Kem Sokha and other political opponents and for a guarantee of a fair trial;

to express, in appropriate fora, its clear opposition to the decision to dissolve the CRNP and to redistribute, arbitrarily, the seats to other minor parties;

to coordinate with other European countries, especially those that signed the Paris Peace Agreements on Cambodia (France, United Kingdom, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland) to create the conditions for the recovery of the democratization process in Cambodia, starting with the holding of free and fair elections for the Cambodian people.