European Parliament

2024-2029



Plenary sitting

B10-0087/2025 } B10-0089/2025 } B10-0091/2025 } B10-0092/2025 } B10-0093/2025 } RC1

22.1.2025

JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rules 150(5) and 136(4) of the Rules of Procedure

replacing the following motions:

B10-0087/2025 (Verts/ALE)

B10-0089/2025 (S&D)

B10-0091/2025 (Renew)

B10-0092/2025 (PPE)

B10-0093/2025 (ECR)

on the case of Boualem Sansal in Algeria (2025/2512(RSP))

Sebastião Bugalho, Christophe Gomart, Isabel Wiseler-Lima, Michael Gahler, Luděk Niedermayer, Wouter Beke, Davor Ivo Stier, Michał Wawrykiewicz, Jessica Polfjärd, Tomáš Zdechovský, Andrey Kovatchev, Inese Vaidere

on behalf of the PPE Group

Yannis Maniatis, Francisco Assis, Marta Temido

on behalf of the S&D Group

Adam Bielan, Ondřej Krutílek, Veronika Vrecionová, Joachim Stanisław

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PE769.109v01-00 } PE769.111v01-00 } PE769.113v01-00 } PE769.114v01-00 } PE769.115v01-00 } RC1 Brudziński, Waldemar Tomaszewski, Alexandr Vondra, Marion Maréchal, Sebastian Tynkkynen, Małgorzata Gosiewska on behalf of the ECR Group Helmut Brandstätter, Petras Auštrevičius, Malik Azmani, Dan Barna, Benoit Cassart, Olivier Chastel, Bernard Guetta, Ilhan Kyuchyuk, Nathalie Loiseau, Urmas Paet, Lucia Yar on behalf of the Renew Group Leoluca Orlando on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

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PE769.109v01-00 }
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PE769.114v01-00 }
PE769.115v01-00 } RC1

2/4

European Parliament resolution on the case of Boualem Sansal in Algeria (2025/2512(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its previous resolutions on Algeria,
- having regard to Rules 150(5) and 136(4) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas on 16 November 2024 the Algerian authorities arrested French-Algerian writer Boualem Sansal, who had publicly taken a robust stance against the authoritarian regime, calling for freedom of expression in Algeria; whereas his whereabouts remained unknown for over a week, during which time he was denied access to his family and legal counsel, contrary to international law; whereas Sansal was interrogated without his lawyer, violating his right to a fair trial; whereas he was subsequently charged with national security-related offences under Article 87bis of the Algerian Penal Code, a provision frequently used against government critics, including human rights defenders; whereas Sansal has been hospitalised several times;
- B. whereas Algeria is a signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; whereas Algeria has undertaken to respect and promote freedom of expression in full compliance with its international obligations, the EU-Algeria partnership priorities, and its Constitution; whereas new amendments to the Penal Code were adopted in 2024 imposing significant restrictions on freedom of expression;
- C. whereas freedom of expression in Algeria has deteriorated, with the country falling to 139th place on the 2024 World Press Freedom Index; whereas journalists have been placed under increasing pressure and are often detained and prosecuted; whereas at least 215 people are being held in Algeria as prisoners of opinion, according to Algerian human rights defenders; whereas censorship, trials and harsh punishment of independent media, often accused of colluding with foreign powers against national security, continue to increase;
- D. whereas between 2021 and 2024 the EU disbursed EUR 213 million to Algeria under the Multiannual Indicative Programme;
- 1. Condemns the arrest and detention of Boualem Sansal and calls for his immediate and unconditional release;
- 2. Equally condemns the arrests of all other activists, political prisoners, journalists, human rights defenders and others detained or sentenced for exercising their right to freedom of opinion and expression, including journalist Abdelwakil Blamm and writer Tadjadit Mohamed, and calls for their release;
- 3. Urges the EU institutions and the EU Delegation to publicly share their concerns with the Algerian authorities, and to organise a medical mission to assess Sansal's health;

- 4. Calls on the Algerian authorities to review all repressive laws restricting freedoms, in particular Articles 87bis, 95bis and 196bis of Algeria's Penal Code, and the judiciary's independence, in order to protect the freedom of the press as enshrined in Article 54 of Algeria's Constitution;
- 5. Reiterates, as enshrined in the EU-Algeria Partnership Priorities, the importance of the rule of law in order to consolidate freedom of expression; stresses that renewing this agreement must be based upon continued and substantial progress in the aforementioned domains and underscores that all future disbursements of EU funds should consider the progress made in this regard;
- 6. Instructs its President to have this resolution translated into Arabic and forwarded to the Algerian Authorities, the Commission and the VP/HR.