

**European Parliament**  
**Texts Adopted by Parliament**  
**06/09/2001**

**Anti-personnel mines**

B5-0542, 0561, 0568, 0575, 0590 and 0599/2001

**European Parliament resolution on measures to promote a commitment by non-State actors to a total ban on anti-personnel landmines**

**The European Parliament,**

- having regard to its resolutions of 17 December 1992 on the injuries and loss of life caused by mines<sup>(1)</sup>, of 29 June 1995 on landmines and blinding laser weapons<sup>(2)</sup> and on anti-personnel landmines: a murderous impediment to development<sup>(3)</sup>, of 18 December 1997 on the 1997 Convention on the prohibition and destruction of anti-personnel mines<sup>(4)</sup> and of 25 October 2000 on anti-personnel landmines<sup>(5)</sup>,

- having regard to the communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on action against anti-personnel landmines: reinforcing the contribution of the European Union; and the proposal for a European Parliament and Council Regulation concerning action against anti-personnel landmines (COM(2000) 111),

A. whereas the use of anti-personnel landmines, in addition to resulting in the loss of human life, especially among the civilian population, represents a serious obstacle to the social and economic recovery of affected countries,

B. whereas today the majority of landmines are laid in the context of armed conflict and/or civil war where both State armed forces and non-State armed groups may be involved in the use of landmines,

C. whereas the 1997 Mine Ban Treaty has been ratified by 119 States and signed by 141,

D. whereas 52 States have not yet signed and ratified the Ottawa Convention,

E. having regard to the importance of the Conference of States signatories to the Ottawa Convention to be held from 18 to 22 September 2001 in Managua,

F. whereas the international community has a moral duty to seek commitments from all the parties involved in such conflicts, States and non-State actors, to ban the use of anti-personnel landmines, in order to achieve a truly universal ban on these inhumane weapons,

G. whereas this does not imply support for, or recognition of the legitimacy of, non-State actors or their activities,

H. recognising the efforts made by governments, international institutions and specialist NGOs to encourage non-State actors to ban the use of anti-personnel landmines,

1. Asks the European Union to consider all possible means of putting pressure on those non-State actors openly reluctant to undertake to adhere to a total ban on anti-personnel landmines;
2. Calls for the elimination of the use, production, stockpiling and transfer of anti-personnel landmines by non-State actors;
3. Urges the Council and the Commission to identify the sources of supply of anti-personnel landmines to non-State actors;
4. Calls for increased resources for humanitarian demining and mine awareness and landmine victim rehabilitation and assistance programmes;
5. Welcomes proposals to seek commitments from non-State actors, for example through a Deed of Commitment for Adherence to a Total Ban on Anti-Personnel Landmines and for Cooperation in Mine Action;
6. Calls on the Managua Conference to support the efforts to obtain strong commitments from non-State actors;
7. Calls on the States party to the Ottawa Convention to give closer attention to the problem of anti-personnel mines in relation to non-State actors and to support the efforts made by specialist NGOs and international institutions to commit non-State actors to the mine ban process;
8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the governments of the Member States, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Committee for the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, and the governments of the United States of America, the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China.

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ C 21, 25.1.1993, p. 161.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ C 183, 17.7.1995, p. 44.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ C 183, 17.7.1995, p. 47.

<sup>(4)</sup> OJ C 14, 19.1.1998, p. 201.