

CONCLUSIONS ON THE EVENTS IN UKRAINE ADOPTED BY THE EUROPEAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

29 JANUARY 2014

The European Affairs Committee,

In the light of its previous Conclusions of 5 November 2013 on European Union-Ukraine relations,

In the light of the evolution of the situation in Ukraine since that date,

In the light of the Statement of 17 January 2014 by the High Representative Catherine ASHTON on the measures adopted on 16 January by the Ukrainian parliament,

In the light of the Conclusions of 20 January 2014 by the Foreign Affairs Council on the latest developments in the situation in Ukraine,

In the light of the Statement of 22 January 2014 by the President of the Commission José Manuel BARROSO:

1. Expresses its profound emotion in the face of the brutal repression of the demonstrations by the opposition in January 2014, which left several casualties and many injured.

2. Notifies its indignation at the adoption on 16 January 2014 by the Ukrainian parliament of legislation which would have led to a considerable restriction of the freedoms of expression, assembly and demonstration, and would have countered the progress previously achieved by Ukraine towards a rapprochement with the fundamental values of the European Union.

3. Takes note of the fact that the Ukrainian parliament meeting in extraordinary session voted on 28 January to repeal these measures.

4. Urges the Ukrainian authorities to end the brutal repression of the demonstrations and hold open dialogue with the representatives of the opposition and civil society, in order to find a democratic and enduring solution to the present crisis.

5. Presses for the release of the persons arrested arbitrarily on the occasion of these demonstrations and for that of all the political detainees; desires that these measures should be adopted very rapidly to solve the cases of suspicious disappearance and sanction those committing acts of violence against the demonstrators.

6. If no democratic solution to the present crisis is found and if the infringements of human rights and fundamental freedoms continue to be committed in the weeks

ahead, calls on the European Union to take targeted sanctions against the Ukrainian authorities.