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JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE 3rd AND 4th COMMITTEES

(Foreign affairs, emigration)

(Defence)

(*Rapporteurs* SANGALLI and VATTUONE)

adopted at the session on 12 October 2016

ON

**THE JOINT COMMUNICATION FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND
THE HIGH REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNION FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND
SECURITY POLICY TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL:
ELEMENTS FOR AN EU-WIDE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK TO SUPPORT
SECURITY SECTOR REFORM (JOIN (2016) 31 FINAL) (EU DOCUMENT No 197)**

pursuant to Article 144(1) and (6) of the Rules of Procedure

Sent to the President's Office on 18 October 2016

The Committees,

having examined the Joint Communication from the European Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to the European Parliament and the Council: Elements for an EU-wide strategic framework to support security sector reform, pursuant to Article 144(1) and (6) of the Rules of Procedure;

whereas:

the Communication outlines a single EU-wide framework to support the reform of the security sector, with the aim of promoting and reinforcing the efforts of partner countries to improve public security and the overall effectiveness of the sector;

the document takes account of the close link between the internal and external dimension of security issues, reflecting the comprehensive approach adopted by the European Union, bringing together the common security and defence policy (CSDP), the common foreign and security policy (CFSP), external action instruments, development cooperation and the neighbourhood and enlargement policies;

the strategic framework will apply in all contexts and to all European Union actors and instruments and will guide the identification, planning and implementation of all external action instruments related to the reform of the security sector;

sharing and welcoming the commitment expressed in the document:

to carry out a more thorough analysis of the security sector in the countries concerned, particularly with the help of the EU delegations;

to enable broad national ownership of the efforts to reform the security and justice sectors;

to ensure that the European Union's efforts are coordinated with those of other international actors (UN, regional organisations, NGOs and civil society, etc.) in supporting a strategy shared with the partner countries;

to make the best use of the expertise of the Member States and the European Union in security matters, particularly by using the tools of Europol, Cefpol and Frontex, the resources of the European External Action Service (EEAS) and the European Security and Defence College (ESDC);

welcoming also the inclusion of the following activities in the European Union's strategic framework:

institutional support for partner countries, accompanied by a broad political and strategic dialogue, particularly on issues related to human rights, the rule of law and democracy;

building the capacity of national and regional training institutions;

strengthening instruments of local security and civilian oversight;

disarmament, transitional justice and controlling the spread of weapons, particularly in post-conflict situations;

reaffirming support for the role played by the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, within the meaning of Article 18(4) of the Treaty on European Union (TEU), in order to ensure the consistency and effective coordination of the Union's external action initiatives, despite the many challenges that exist;

reasserting the need, in the practical implementation of the new strategic framework, to pay greater attention to the geopolitical situation of the Mediterranean countries and neighbouring areas, bearing in mind the problems and challenges the region poses for the internal security of the entire European Union;

call on the Government:

to support the efforts of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and the other European institutions to implement the strategic framework for reform of the security sector and to work towards the adoption of the proposed measures.