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B7-000

## **DRAFT JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION**

with request for inclusion in the agenda for the debate on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law

pursuant to Rule 122 of the Rules of Procedure

*on the case of Rafah Nashed in Syria*

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*United in diversity*

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**European Parliament resolution:**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 and to article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political rights of 1966 of which Syria is a party;

- having regard to the statements by the spokesperson Catherine Ashton, the EU High Representative on 30 August on the worsening of the human rights situation in Syria and the situation of Rafah Nashed in Syria of 23 September 2011;

- having regard to the statements of the Vice-Presidents of the European Parliament, Isabelle Durant and Libor Roucek and Vice-President of the Socialist and Democrats Group Veronique de Keyser, in the plenary sessions of 14, 29 and 15 September calling for the release of Rafah Nashed;

- having regard to the Council's conclusions on 10 and 23 October 2011 and the sanctions on 13 October 2011;

- having regard to the European Parliament's resolutions on the situation in Syria, Bahrain and Yemen from 7 April and from 7 July 2011;

- having regard to the European Parliament resolution on the situation in Syria from 15 September 2011;

- having regard to rule 122 of its Rule of Procedure;

A. whereas Syria's first practicing psychoanalyst and the founder of the Damascus School of Psychoanalysis, Mrs. Rafah Nashed, was arbitrarily arrested and detained on 10 September at the Damascus airport by officers of the General Intelligence Services; whereas she is known for treating victims of psychological trauma as well as for her active engagement in favour of dialogue between all Syrians;

B. whereas Mrs. Rafah Nashed is 66 years old and her health condition is precarious as she has a heart disease, a recovering cancer and a high blood pressure and has to take medications regularly; whereas her health is deteriorating in prison aggravating her heart disease;

C. Whereas Mrs. Nashed was taken to prison without any known charges, when she was travelling to Paris to assist with the childbirth of her daughter and initially she was held in secrecy;

D. whereas on 14 September 2011 she was accused of "activities likely to destabilise the State" where the judge refused to release her on bail; whereas the nature of the accusation and the paranoia that has gripped the regime for the last six month, raises fear of a lengthy detention, aimed at intimidating the whole Syrian intellectual community;

E. whereas in very few hours a huge international mobilisation has been put in place, including a petition which has been signed for her immediate and unconditional release;

1. Strongly condemns the arbitrary arrest and detention of Mrs Rafah Nashed by the Syrian Authorities;
2. Expresses its deepest concerns about the health situation of Mrs Rafah Nashed given her precarious health conditions;
3. Calls on the Syrian Authorities to immediately and unconditionally release Mrs. Rafah Nashed for medical and humanitarian reasons, and to guarantee her physical safety and return her to her family without further delay;
4. Demands the Syrian Authorities to authorise humanitarian organisations and doctors, the right to treat the victims of violence and give them access to the whole Syrian territory and ability to carry out their legitimate and peaceful work without fear of reprisals and free of all restrictions, including judicial harassment; Calls on the Syrian Authorities to abide by international human rights standards and international commitments, guaranteeing freedom of opinion and expression;
5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, and the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the Secretary-General of the Arab League and the Government and Parliament of the Syrian Arab Republic.