



## RESOLUTION ON NICARAGUA

In January 2007, Daniel Ortega became President of Nicaragua through an electoral process devoid of any guarantees or truthfulness. Since then he proceeded to dismantle the democratic system, excluding the real opposition united in the National Democratic Opposition, from participating in the electoral process. In view of recent developments and the ongoing deterioration of democracy in Nicaragua:

The **IDC-EDI**:

- Demands the reestablishment, without further delay, of the independence of the powers of the state as guaranteed by the Constitution, and an end to blocking the process of professionalization and institutionalization of the National Police and Army of Nicaragua. In addition, to guarantee the freedom of the leadership of the main trade unions of the country as well as that of university autonomy ;
- Demands the permission of international observers to enter the country in order to determine the legality of the changes in the electoral law, and above all, to examine the constitutional mandate that justifies the re-election and victory of Ortega and his spouse, as President and Vice-Presidents respectively ;
- Demands a halt to systematic human rights violations and the impunity under which police and security forces are operating, inequality before the law and the lack of security for private property ;
- Denounces the lack of freedom of information and of the press and calls attention to the acquisition by Ortega family members of mass communications media, including the majority of television channels, newspapers and radio-stations ;
- Urges the International Community to investigate the efforts of the Nicaraguan people to put an end to the abuse of power, to repression and human rights violations in order to re-establish a democratic regime. In addition, it is necessary to pay more attention to developments in Nicaragua in order to help avoiding the worsening of the situation which might, in the end, become a factor of instability in the entire region ;
- Calls on the international community to become aware of the new arms race in the region, which threatens to put at risk the reasonable balance of forces foreseen by the Esquipulas II agreements aiming to establish a firm and durable peace in Central America. Similarly, to urge Nicaragua to fully implement its international commitments under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations and the Inter-American Democratic Charter of the OAS.

Malta, 30 March 2017