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Foreign Affairs

Consternation at confirmation death sentence health workers

The European Parliament Foreign Affairs Committee expressed its consternation at the sentence by a Libyan court which condemned to death again five Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor accused of having infected hundreds of Libyan children with HIV.

"We are shocked by the step taken by the court. We call on the Libyan authorities urgently to ensure a fair trial of the accused. The decision should be reviewed and evidence of the innocence of the medics should be taken into account", Committee chair Elmar Brok (EPP-ED, DE) declared.

MEPs criticised specifically that the court had disregarded scientific evidence demonstrating without doubt that the medics could not have been responsible for the infection of Libyan children.

The Foreign Affairs Committee urgently repeated previous calls for an immediate release of the five Bulgarian nurses and the Palestinian doctor, who have been incarcerated in appalling conditions for over seven years.

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