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Press Release

The operation is against the UN - we withdraw the support

Monday 4 April 2011, by Red-Green Alliance (Date first published: 30 March 2011).

The action in Libya is not any more just about obtaining a ceasefire and protecting civilians. Instead it is about taking part in a civil war, and that is something, The Red-green Alliance will not support.

"The direction that the action has taken is in clear opposition to the UN resolution, and there has ben made no serious attempts to establish a ceasefire," tells Frank Aaen, the defense policy spokesperson.

From protection to civil war

"Since last Friday they had succeeded in stopping the attacks from Gadaffi on the civilian population. It was a correct decision to stop his attack, and we are pleased to have been part of it," Frank Aaen states.

But lately the operation has changed its character, so now we are involved in a civil war. The last coupl of days the rebels had received air support to help them push forward, and even though we feel a great sympathy with the rebels, it is not the task of the military action to support one of the parties in a civil war.

No attempts on ceasefire

The development is, according to Frank Aaen, in clear conflict to the mandate that the UN and the Danish parliament (Folketinget) have granted. And that implies that the initial conditions of the Red-Green Alliance for supporting the operation are no longer fulfilled.

"It was crucial for us that the political goals were ceasefire and negotiations. And now we have to state that there has been made no serious effort in that direction whatsoever, even though it is point number one in the UN resolution," Frank Aaen says.

Several nations, and the African Union have tried to boost the negotiations, but they obtained no support from NATO or the Foreign Ministers of the Alliance. They prefer to continue bombing.

The Red-Green Alliance will work to get the operation back on the UN-track as soon as possible. A civil war and external attempts to enforce a change of regime in Libya might last years and will cost the lives of many civilians.

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