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European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1979 - 1980

15 January 1980

DOCUMENT 1-654/79

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

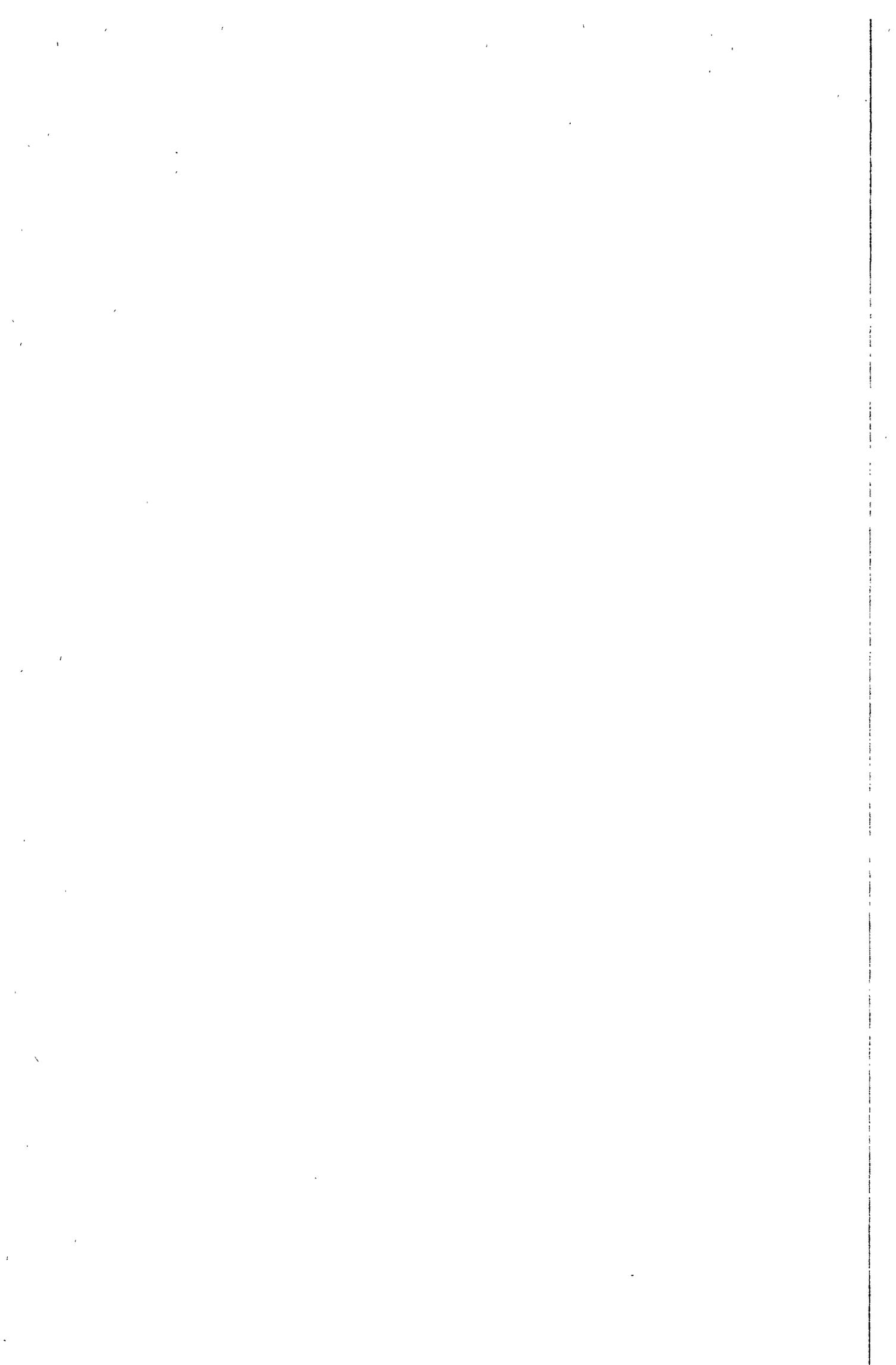
tabled by Mr SEEFELD
on behalf of the Socialist Group

pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure

on the/question of the seat of the European
Parliament

COMMUNITY
SERVICE
LUXEMBOURG, D. G.

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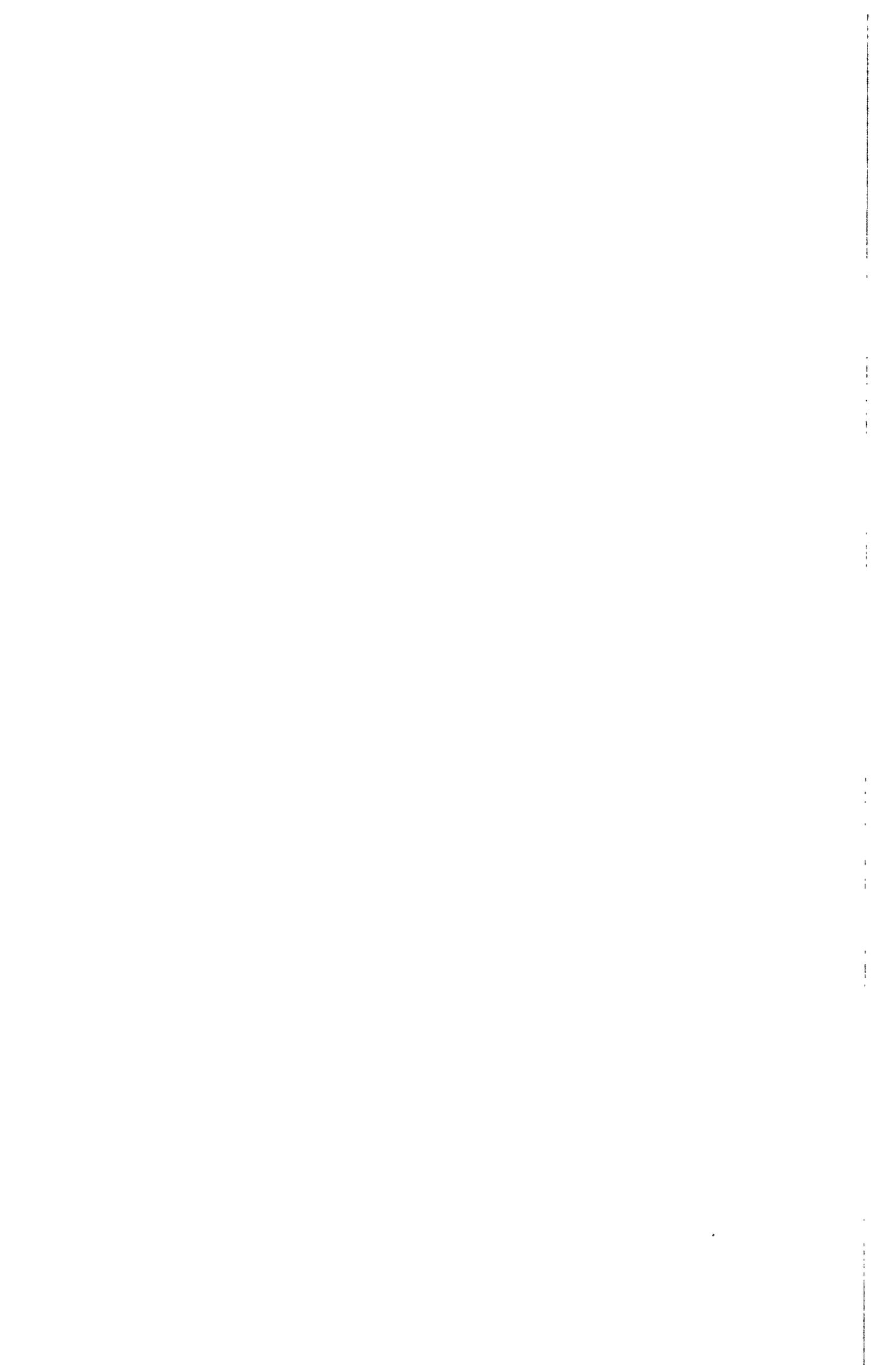


The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 216 of the EEC Treaty, which specifies that 'The seat of the institutions of the Community shall be determined by common accord of the Governments of the Member States',
- stressing that under this article the Community institutions, and in particular the European Parliament, have a legal right to a single seat, which the Member States' governments have been violating for some twenty years by failing to take action,
- having regard to the Council's responsibility to ensure that the governments of the Member States take a decision pursuant to Article 216 EEC,
- having regard to the numerous complaints by Members of the European Parliament concerning:
 - the obstacles to Parliament's work,
 - the wasteful extra expenditure incurred,
 - the paralysis of cooperation between the Community institutions,
 - the impediment to contacts between Parliament and the public,resulting from the practice of having three different places of work,
- taking into account its responsibility to European taxpayers,
- convinced, therefore, that in the longer term the Members of the European Parliament can fulfil the expectations of their constituents and carry out their duties only if they have a single place of work,
- noting that all the Member States' parliaments have only one seat, where Members can carry out their work effectively,
- having regard to the decision of 8 April 1965 by the representatives of the governments of the Member States on the provisional location of certain institutions and departments of the Communities¹,
- having regard to the criticism voiced by the European Parliament in its decision to give a discharge in respect of the 1977 budget at the additional costs entailed by having three places of work (Doc. 463/79),
- having regard to the special report of the Court of Auditors on the accommodation policies of the institutions of the European Communities²,

¹OJ No. 152, 13.7.1967, p. 18

²OJ No. C 221, 3.9.1979



- having regard to the enlarged Bureau's decision to convene group and committee meetings in Brussels as a general rule,
- 1. Calls on the Governments of the Member States to take a decision on a seat for the institutions pursuant to Article 216 of the EEC Treaty;
- 2. Calls on the Council to deliver an opinion for the governments of the Member States;
- 3. Expects the Governments of the Member States to take a decision in agreement with Parliament by 31 December 1980 at the latest;
- 4. Hereby gives notice that, if the Governments of the Member States continue to disregard Article 216 of the EEC Treaty, Parliament will take such decisions as are within its powers to meet the objective of that article;
- 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Governments and Parliaments of the Member States and to the Council.

