

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1980 - 1981

28 October 1981

DOCUMENT 1-647/81

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr COMBE

on behalf of the Liberal and Democratic Group

with request for urgent debate

pursuant to Rule 48 of the Rules of Procedure

on craft industries

PE 75.724

The European Parliament,

- whereas craft industries must not be excluded from the legislative provisions laid down by the European Community,
 - whereas craft industries represent a special economic sector within the economies of the Member States, because of the professional qualification of the heads of the undertakings concerned, because they are often family undertakings and because the labour force is large in relation to the amount of equipment used,
 - observing that the large number of apprentices in craft trades within the Member States shows that the craft sector does more than any other to provide young people with employment,
 - whereas apprenticeship is an ideal way for young people to learn a trade and generally leads to employment: providing them with the best prospects for setting up in business on their own account,
1. Wishes measures to be taken with the European Community to make the craft sector better-known to young people;
 2. Considers that Community measures ought to be taken to establish better contacts between schools and undertakings;
 3. Considers that additional efforts must be made within the Community to provide vocational training for young people, further training for heads of undertakings, and management training in general;
 4. Urges that the establishment of craft industries be encouraged, by actively increasing the availability of loans with interest rate subsidies, mortgage loans and loans for capital formation;
 5. Considers there to be an urgent need to reduce fiscal, social and administrative costs;
 6. Calls for more effective measures to be taken to combat undeclared unemployment, which is the bane of our economy;

7. Wishes public contracts to be made more easily accessible to craft industries;
8. Calls on the financial institutions of the European Community (European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund and European Investment Bank) to take financing and assistance measures for the benefit of craft industries, which are all too often overlooked;
9. Calls for every effort to be made to afford craft industries easier access to foreign markets, in particular by providing those which already sell to foreign customers with the resources to carry out a systematic survey of the potential of these markets;
10. Calls for the necessary steps to be taken to simplify the legal and customs formalities applicable to exports and to reduce the costs involved so that craft industries may compete on equal terms with the large industries;
11. Urges the European Community to take measures to improve the professional and competitive position of craft industries;
12. Considers that a major effort ought to be made to give craft industries access to economic information and to link them to data bank networks;
13. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council and the Governments of the Member States.