

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

7 February 1983

DOCUMENT 1-1215/82

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr MEGAHY, Mr CABORN and Mr SEAL

for entry in the register

pursuant to Rule 49 of the Rules of Procedure

on the impact of 10 years' British membership of the
EEC on Yorkshire and Humberside

A. having regard to the Commission's background document on Yorkshire and Humberside published in connection with its major press presentation in the UK on 25 November 1982 to mark the impact of 10 years' membership of the EEC on "the British regions and Northern Ireland" (sic)

B. notes from this document

- a) that there has been a substantial loss of jobs in the region's traditional industries of wool textiles, fishing, steel and agriculture contributing to a current unemployment figure of 310,000, or 15% of the workforce;
 - b) that the Confederation of British Industry Regional Chairman has commented that "Imports from Common Market countries of steel have seriously damaged the Yorkshire steel industry. The Common Agricultural Policy has raised food prices to the serious detriment of some companies";
 - c) that in the wool textile industry centred on Yorkshire and Humberside there is a growing view that the Commission has accepted the transference of bulk textile production to the Third World;
 - d) that the Yorkshire and Humberside fishing industry has undergone violent changes in the past decade so that now lines of rusting vessels crowd the port of Hull where the industry is a shadow of its former might;
 - e) that a recent CBI survey of exporting companies in Yorkshire and Humberside found that during the last four to five years 60% of such companies had not recorded any improvement in exports to the EEC compared with exports to the rest of the world; that 56% of companies said they had seen an increase in the trend of imports from the Community into UK markets; that EEC exports currently generated little profits; and that 58% of responding companies made no claim that UK membership of the EEC had improved access to Community markets;
 - f) that local authorities in Yorkshire and Humberside belong to a school of thought which suggests that the value of CAP price support is open to question and that, if resources devoted to CAP were reduced, an increase in the size of other EEC funds namely the ERDF and the ESF might be seen;
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1. **Congratulates the Commission on its frank account of the failure of EEC membership to have any positive impact on employment and economic growth in Yorkshire and Humberside over the last 10 years, as promised at the time of entry and of the 1975 Referendum on the continuation of membership.**
 2. **Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission**