

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

11 October 1982

DOCUMENT 1-724/82

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr DE PASQUALE

on behalf of the Communist and Allies Group

with request for topical and urgent debate
pursuant to Rule 48 of the Rules of Procedure

on fisheries agreements in the Mediterranean

The European Parliament,

- A alarmed at the persistence of serious tension in the Mediterranean between Sicily and Tunisia as a result of the lack of fishing agreements,
- B recalling that on 19 June 1979, the date on which the fishing agreement with the Tunisian Republic expired, at least 65 fishing boats were seized and were not released until fines totalling hundreds of millions of lira had been paid,
- C having regard to the consequent extremely serious economic damage to a region which is already severely handicapped,
- D acknowledging with concern that the working conditions of Sicilian fishermen have deteriorated to a level of insecurity and danger which is no longer tolerable,
- E whereas the fishing fleet of Mazara del Vallo has been immobile for one month and that the whole population shares the fear and anxiety of the fishermen, as shown by the general strike on 19 September 1982,
- F recalling its previous repeated statements advocating a rapid solution to the problem of fishing zones in the Mediterranean, also with a view to consolidating amicable relations and cooperation with all the Mediterranean countries¹,

1. requests the Commission and Council

- (a) rapidly to conclude fishing agreements with Tunisia, Libya and Malta,
- (b) to include discussion on the definition of fishing zones in the cooperation agreements with those countries and hence in the relevant financial protocols,
- (c) to do everything in their power to guarantee the necessary surveillance of these fishing zones in order to protect the safety of fishermen and severely to punish any infringements,
- (d) to formulate, for the Mediterranean, an overall fisheries and marine policy including measures providing for the judicious management of marine resources, the regeneration of marine fauna and protection of the environment of that sea;

2. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission of the European Communities.

¹ See resolution on the bilateral Italo-Tunisian fishing agreement (OJ No. C 266 of 22.10.1979, P. 45); resolution of 21 October 1980 on fishing in the Mediterranean

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