

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

22 JULY 1982

DOCUMENT L-530/82

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mrs THEOBALD-PAOLI

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on greater respect for human rights and public freedoms in Brazil and the defence of two priests and thirteen farm workers held in prison

PE 80.009

The European Parliament,

- A. concerned about the protection of human rights and public freedoms wherever they may be challenged and abused,
- B. recalling the progressive role played in Latin America by a section of the clergy in an endeavour to assist and comfort the vast numbers of underprivileged,
- C. stressing that many priests, along with political and trades union leaders, have for nearly two decades been targets of the hostility of the Brazilian authorities and of the groups it controls,
- D. whereas the promises of liberalization repeatedly given by Brazilian leaders have not all been kept,
- E. having learned that two European priests, Aristide CAMIO and Francois GOURIOU were sentenced by Brazilian military tribunals on 22 June this year to prison terms of 15 and 10 years respectively for incitement to revolt against the police on the basis of apparently false evidence from their codefendants (poor farm workers) bribed by the military and that 13 of these codefendants were also convicted,
- F. Aware that the Brazilian authorities are anxious to improve their public image and have so far only partially succeeded,
 - 1. Calls the attention of the Brazilian authorities to the procedures apparently employed in convicting Father CAMIO and Father GOURIOU and the 13 other defendants and calls on them to carry out any investigation required to ensure that justice is fully done and with due respect for human rights and democratic freedoms;
 - 2. Hopes earnestly that future relations between the Community and Brazil will not be affected by behaviour inconsistent with respect for human rights and public freedoms;
 - 3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Government of Brazil, the Commission, the Council, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs meeting within the framework of political cooperation and the Governments of the Member States.