

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

31 August 1982

DOCUMENT 1-565/82

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr KYRKOS

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the return of the 'Elgin Marbles' to their natural
and cultural environment

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to decision No. 4/09 adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO at its 21st meeting with respect to the return of cultural treasures to their countries of origin,
- B. having regard to the decision of 5 August 1982 taken by the World Conference on Cultural Policy (MONDIACULT) held in Mexico City under the auspices of UNESCO stating that the removal of the Elgin Marbles from the Parthenon has disfigured the entire building and altered the appearance of this unique monument, which serves as an eternal symbol for the people of Greece and the world as a whole,
- C. whereas it is right and just that the marbles from the Parthenon be returned to Greece, the country that produced them and from where they originate, so that they can be reincorporated into the architectural structure of which they are part,
- D. whereas these marbles were removed from Greece and still remain outside the country contrary to the wishes of the Greek people,
 1. Expresses its support for the above decisions taken by UNESCO and the World Conference on Cultural Policy;
 2. Calls on the Governments of Greece and the United Kingdom to cooperate with a view to the immediate implementation of these decisions;
 3. Calls on the Commission to provide financial aid for the building of a suitable substructure to receive the marbles in Greece;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this proposal to the Commission, the Council and the Governments of the Member States.