

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

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DOCUMENT 1-589/82

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mrs THEOBALD-PAOLI

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the introduction of reduced rates at weekends,
official holidays and after 8 o'clock in the
evening for intra-Community telephone calls

PE 80.508

The European Parliament,

- A - wishing to promote rapprochement between the citizens of the Member States of the Community,
- B - aware of the large numbers of nationals of Member States living outside their countries but within the Community,
- C - drawing attention to the crucial role which will henceforward be played by the telephone in Europe in the matter of maintaining family ties and, on a more general level, the enrichment of social relations,
- D - wishing therefore to see the development of the telephone encouraged for social purposes,
- E - noting that the work-load of the intra-European telecommunications network is substantially lighter on Saturday afternoons, Sundays, official holidays, and from 8 o'clock in the evening on working days as a result of the reduction in business activities during these periods; noting that as a result non-business telephone calls could be encouraged without additional equipment costs during these off-peak hours,
- F - whereas, taking account of the state of development of the telephone network in the Community the economic cost of telephone calls is now based less and less on the concept of distance and more and more on criteria determining the conditions of access to the network,
- G - stressing that a number of Member States already apply reduced rates for national or international calls in the evenings, at night, at weekends and on official holidays,
- H - stressing that the Government of one Member State decided in 1981 to apply on a general basis reduced rates for calls within its own territory and to all the other Member States on official holidays, in the evenings and at night,
 - 1. Calls on the Governments of the Member States to open negotiations on the adoption of reduced rates for intra-community telephone calls at weekends, on official holidays and after 8 o'clock in the evenings;
 - 2. Suggests that a reduction of at least one third should be made in rates for intra-Community telephone calls at such times;
 - 3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Governments of the Member States, the Commission, and the Council.