

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1983-1984

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mrs THEOBALD-PAOLI

pursuant to Rule 47

of the Rules of Procedure

on the promotion of staggered holidays

The European Parliament,

- A - whereas tourism represents one of the Community's major economic activities,
 - B - whereas, given the Community's present economic situation, tourism is one of the sectors whose development prospects are frequently regarded in an optimistic light,
 - C - fully approving the priority that the Commission of the European Communities has given to the development of this industry since 1981 by making one of its members responsible for keeping it under special review,
 - D - having regard to the highly seasonal nature of Community tourism, which gives rise to large-scale migrations of people from one region or country to another during the Christmas and Easter periods and especially in July and August, mainly from the north of the Community towards the poorer southern regions that nevertheless enjoy a more favourable climate,
 - E - having regard to the very high cost of the infrastructure for roads, accommodation and leisure facilities created by these brief and concentrated migrations, and to the damage they sometimes cause to the environment,
 - F - whereas the main tourist areas that are subject to these migrations are mostly in the south of the Community (including the Mediterranean coasts of France, Italy, Corsica, Sicily and Greece), although the southern regions and the coastal and mountain areas of several other Member States are also affected,
 - G - noting with approval the experiments tried by firms that encourage staggered holidays and by regions, departments and local authorities that undertake to provide holidaymakers who arrive in the low season or out of season with the same infrastructure or cultural facilities as those offered to holiday makers who arrive in July or August, and thus contribute to a harmonious development of tourism, open to more people and offering improved prospects of employment,
1. Calls upon the Governments of the Member States to step up cooperation to bring about a better staggering of holidays;
 2. Calls upon them to accelerate experiments with grants for the staggering of holidays;
 3. Calls upon the Commission to give its support to these experiments, particularly through regional development financing instruments;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council and the Governments of the Member States.