

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr VANDEMEULEBROUCHKE

pursuant to Rule 47 of the
Rules of Procedure

on the uniform election procedure

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the adoption on 10 March 1982 of the resolution on a uniform election procedure

1. Notes, however, that the proposed rules fail to do away with substantial differences as regards the voting system and voting rights and that there are therefore still differences affecting the composition and representativeness of the European Parliament and the exercise by the citizens of the Community of their civil rights, namely :
 - (a) the fact that percentage thresholds can still be set;
 - (b) the possible requirement of deposits which are not repayable if a certain percentage of the votes is not obtained;
 - (c) the lack of guarantees for the representation of smaller regions such as Corsica, the German-speaking part of Belgium, South Tirol, Friesland, the Valle d'Aosta, etc;
 - (d) the lack of criteria for the division of states into constituencies;
2. Considers that the refinement of democracy must be a guideline for the European Institutions and their operation;
3. Urges the Council to introduce a uniform voting system which will no longer produce discrimination - financial or structural - against groups which form a minority in their country;
4. Includes in the draft uniform election procedure procedures to ensure that :
 - parties may not be required to pay deposits;
 - percentage thresholds are not permitted anywhere;
 - smaller groups are guaranteed representation in the European Parliament;
 - the existence of population groups is taken into account in the fixing of constituency boundaries;
5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council.