

European Communities

---

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1982-1983

---

10 December 1982

DOCUMENT 1-999/82

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr VANDEMEULEBROUCKE

for entry in the register

pursuant to Rule 49 of the Rules of Procedure

on the financial support for the political parties

for the European elections of 1984

## The European Parliament,

- A - whereas, in a healthy democracy, new and innovative movements should be allowed to develop and the ideas embodied therein should be given an equal chance of manifesting themselves to the electorate,
  - B - noting also that
    - a total of 15,530,000 EUA was allocated directly to political parties for the European elections of 1979 and that these funds were distributed exclusively among the parties then represented in the European Parliament,
    - new parties which successfully contested the European direct elections were in no way entitled to such financial assistance from the Community;
    - a number of parties which participated unsuccessfully were, in addition, placed at a multiple disadvantage in certain Member States as a result of the electoral threshold and the compulsory payment of deposits,
  - C - whereas it is necessary to remedy this unacceptable situation by democratic means and to take measures to end such financial discrimination,
  - D - whereas, for the European elections of 1984, a total of 43 million EUA has been earmarked for direct allocation to political parties,
  - E - whereas, in comparison with the 1979 election campaign, such a vast sum constitutes a disproportionate increase which cannot be justified by the enlargement of the Community from 9 to 10 Member States.
  - F - whereas the granting of such enormous electoral funds to the political parties will arouse no little astonishment among the electorate which, in a period of crisis, expects the European Parliament to set an example of good management,
1. Considers that the total funds earmarked for direct allocation to the political parties contesting the European elections of 1984 should be reduced to 16 million EUA;
  2. Maintains that the appropriations committed for this purpose should be paid retroactively in proportion to the number of votes received by each party, irrespective of its final results;
  3. Considers, therefore, that the commitment appropriations should be allocated to the political parties in accordance with the number of constituents in the respective Member States and constituencies, i.e. a basic sum of x EUA should be paid from the appropriations for each constituent, the financial entitlement for each constituency being equal to this basic amount multiplied by the number of constituents;
  4. Instructs its Bureau, in consultation with the Court of Auditors, to decide on closely-formulated regulations to ensure the perspicuity of the accounts drawn up by each of the political parties participating in the 1984 election campaign;
  5. Instructs its Bureau to formulate a series of criteria for the purpose of devising an objective method of limiting overall expenditure by the parties in the 1984 European elections, ensuring that in each case a political party will be entitled to direct financial support from the European Community only insofar as it has shown sufficient restraint to conform with the above criteria.