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European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr ANSART, Mr PORCU, Mr BORDU,
Mr EBERHARD and Mr SOURY

pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure

on the/ redundancies in the French iron and
steel industry

PE 56.604

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the announcement that there are to be thousands of redundancies in the French steel industry,
 - having regard to the fact that decisions affecting the future of several regions have been taken without any prior consultation and without any consideration for the countless human tragedies they will bring in their wake,
 - whereas no action has been taken to reduce the time spent at work, bring forward the retirement age, cut the working week to 35 hours without any reduction in wages, set up a 5th shift or improve working conditions,
 - whereas no possibilities exist for the redeployment of workers in the areas affected by the dismissals,
 - whereas steelworkers in the other Community Member States, for example the German Federal Republic, are mounting a large-scale campaign to keep their jobs and improve their working conditions,
 - whereas one job in the steel industry generates four jobs in other branches and there is thus an undoubted danger of turning certain regions, in which steel has predominated, into industrial wastelands,
 - whereas the decisions that have been announced are only by way of implementing the European Commission's plans for dismantling the French steel industry, which have been approved by the Member States,
 - whereas this dismantling process, if carried through to its conclusion, would seriously endanger the future production capacities of the countries of Europe,
1. Insists that these redundancies be revoked and that there should be serious consultation of the workers and their organizations with a view to maintaining employment;
 2. Favours a revitalization of industrial activity and general consumption in the light of requirements, so as to increase the demand for steel;
 3. Opposes resolutely the plans to wipe out the steel industry and reaffirms its belief in the promotion of international cooperation based in particular on the preservation and development of the French steel industry;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission of the European Community.