

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1980 - 1981

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr BERKHOUWER

pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure

on the construction of a Channel tunnel

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the studies carried out on behalf of the Commission by Coopers and Lybrand Associates of London and by Setec of Paris and to the report on the construction of a Channel tunnel drawn up by Sir Alec Cairncross at the request of Prime Minister Thatcher,
- believing that the construction of a Channel tunnel:
  - (a) is not only a matter of importance to the United Kingdom and France but would represent major progress towards improving the entire transport infrastructure in the North-West of the Community;
  - (b) is of great psychological value in developing a feeling of European solidarity among the citizens on either side of the Channel, inasmuch as such as improvement in communications will enable them to visit each other's countries more rapidly and more cheaply;
  - (c) no longer poses insuperable technical or financial problems and would yield such returns as to make it profitable in the short term;
- believing, furthermore, that Community participation in the construction of a Channel tunnel - either by (co-)financing through the European Investment Bank or by any other means - will link the Community more closely with the daily life of its citizens,

Invites the Commission, on the basis of the above considerations and possibly in cooperation with all the appropriate authorities in the Member States involved in this project, to draw up measures to ensure that the plans for the construction of a Channel tunnel which have been in existence for almost two hundred years are realized during the 1980s.