

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr LUSTER, Mr ALBER, Mr BOCKLET,
Mr I. FRIEDRICH, Mr von HABSBERG, Mr KLEPSCH,
Mr PFENNIG, Mrs RABBETHGE and Mrs WALZ

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

for a ceremony to mark the end of the legislative
period to be held in Strasbourg cathedral

PE 86.984

The European Parliament resolves

1. The European Parliament shall mark the end of its legislative periods in future with a ceremony in Strasbourg cathedral attended by the Heads of State of the Member States of the European Community.
2. The first ceremony to mark the end of a legislative period shall be held between 21 and 24 May 1984.
3. The President of the European Parliament is asked to make the necessary arrangements in good time to implement this decision.

Justification

History shows that a Community of States requires not only a legislature, executive and judiciary but also ceremonial representation.

It is a defect of the Treaty of Rome that it contains no provisions for Representation of the European Community.

It would be a historic achievement on the part of the European Parliament to recognize and remove this defect in its very first term of office.

This requires no formal Treaty in the first instance.

The voluntary attendance of all Community Heads of State at a ceremony devoted to the European Parliament would have the same psychological effect as a Treaty provision.

This is all that matters because each Head of State is for the vast majority of citizens more or less their conscious or unconscious ideal.

In the course of time experience can be gathered with a view to establishing the definitive form for representation of the European Community.

The final ceremony attended by all Heads of State would be the memorable occasion, which according to Leo Tindemans needs to take place from time to time, to direct the full attention of the public to the need for European integration and peace policy and to commemorate its success to date, namely in having preserved peace and freedom in Europe by means of an on-going dialogue between elected representatives of the Member States.

By inviting all Heads of State in the European Community to this closing ceremony, the European Parliament would be taking a clear step forward on its own initiative, such as Ministers and Prime Ministers can never do, and thus issue an appeal to all its voters to lend expression in the forthcoming elections to their will for a development of a peace loving Europe.