

## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1982 - 1983

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20 APRIL 1982

DOCUMENT 1-134/82

### MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr Langes, Mr Ligios and Mr BARBI

on behalf of the Group of the European  
People's Party (Christian-Democratic Group)

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the Commission's decision not to send  
humanitarian aid to El Salvador

The European Parliament,

- conscious of the fact that over the past 25 years the peoples of the European Community have always given their support to the starving and poor in the world,
  - conscious of the fact that this aid has always been granted irrespective of the race, religion or political beliefs of the recipients,
1. Denounces the decision taken by the Commission in 1981 to refuse to supply the food that it had promised to indigent schoolchildren under 12 years of age in the Central American State of El Salvador.
  2. Expects the provision of school meals in 1982 to be approved.

JUSTIFICATION

In 1981 school meals were to have been provided for 76,000 indigent children under 12 years of age in El Salvador. The European Community had promised to supply 700 tonnes of milk powder and 200 tonnes of butter oil. At the beginning of 1981 Mr CHEYSSON declared, on behalf of the Commission, that this aid could not be given since the European Community did not approve the El Salvador government's policy on human rights.

The European Parliament regrets and condemns the Commission's decision, which is not in accordance with the humanitarian principles which the European Parliament defends.

It also condemns the biased political position which the Commission has adopted on the events in El Salvador and refers in this connection to the statement by the primate of the Catholic church in El Salvador, Archbishop RIVAS Y DAMAS, on Sunday, 4 April 1982, who described the high turnout in the election 'as a sign of the people's desire for freedom, democracy and justice' and called on the guerillas 'to abandon the road of violence and destruction and look for other means of creating credibility and trust'.

The European Parliament therefore calls upon its development and control committees to investigate the matter and draw up unequivocal criteria so that such a biased political decision by the Commission will not be repeated.