

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1983 - 1984

21 September 1983

DOCUMENT 1-740/83

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr KYRKOS

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on a Migrant Workers' 'Charter' and the 'Half-Year of
the Migrant Worker' in Europe

PE 86.544

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to the slow progress of the procedures required for granting the right to vote to migrant workers from the Member States residing in Community countries,
 - B. having regard to the declaration by the Council of Ministers of June 1983 ordering that the opportunity to exercise their right to vote should be extended to all European citizens in the forthcoming direct elections to the European Parliament in June 1984,
 - C. having regard to the demand by migrants' organizations that steps should be taken with regard to the problems of migrant workers by the European Parliament and the other Community institutions,
 - D. having regard to the convening of the 4th European Conference of migrants' organizations on the problems of migrant workers, to be held in Stockholm in the spring of 1984,
1. Takes the initiative in proclaiming the first half-year of 1984 the half-year of the migrant worker;
in this context, calls on the relevant committee:
 - (a) to invite to hearings all the migrants' organizations in the Member States and the migrants' organizations of citizens of Community member countries in third countries;
 - (b) to set up a committee with members from all the political groups in the European Parliament to study the problems of migrant workers;
 - (c) to ensure that the committee in question submits to Parliament by May 1984 a report on the problems faced today by migrant workers who are citizens of Europe;
 2. Calls on the relevant Committee to study, in collaboration with the countries of origin of migrant workers, programmes of employment, housing and education for migrant workers who wish to return to their countries;
 3. Calls on the relevant committee to draw up, by May 1984, a Charter of the rights of migrant workers, to include:
 - (a) ensuring that migrant workers enjoy their political rights, first and foremost the right to vote and stand for election in the local and regional government elections in their place of residence;

- (b) securing for migrant workers the right to vote in elections for the European Parliament, with a choice between voting for candidates in the countries in which they reside or for candidates in the countries from which they come;
- (c) securing for the 'first citizens of Europe' the right to live and move freely in all Community Member States;
- (d) securing the right to education, professional training, learning their mother tongue, etc.;
- (e) recognizing time worked in various Community countries in granting promotion, increments and pensions;
- (f) ensuring that migrant workers' benefits for medical and pharmaceutical care may be transferred to whatever country they wish;

4. Calls on the relevant committee:

- (a) to devise programmes enabling young migrant workers to go to their countries of origin to learn their parents' language and forge closer links with the countries from which they descend;
- (b) to devise programmes to strengthen the links binding migrant workers to their countries of origin and
- (c) to devise programmes to keep migrant workers informed of economic, social and political developments in their countries of origin;

5. Calls on the Commission of the European Communities:

- (a) to invite experts and migrants' organizations from among migrant workers to hearings in order to brief itself on the problems of migrant workers today;
- (b) to set up a committee to deal with migrant workers' problems;
- (c) to contribute towards funding national migrant workers' congresses so that they may attend the 4th European Conference of migrants' organizations to be held in Stockholm in the spring of 1984;
- (d) to contribute to funding the holding of the 4th European Conference of migrants' organizations and attendance at the 4th European Conference of migrants' organizations by national delegations;

- (e) to finance studies into the present problems of migrant workers and contribute to the creation of infrastructures for their return to their countries of origin;
 - (f) to provide for a special item in the Community budget to cover the achievement of such objectives as are set by the committees of the European Parliament;
6. Calls on the national Parliaments of the Member States to set up standing committees for the exchange of views with migrants' organizations of migrant workers;
7. Calls on the governments of the Member States:
- (a) to provide directly every facility to ensure that migrant workers enjoy their right to vote in elections to the European Parliament;
 - (b) to ensure that migrant workers enjoy the right to vote in local and regional government elections in each country;
 - (c) to suggest that the national radio stations in each country broadcast radio programmes for migrant workers;
8. Calls on the Council of Ministers to proclaim the first half-year of 1984 the Half-Year of the Migrant Worker;
9. Instructs its President to forward this motion for a resolution to the Commission, the Council of Ministers, the governments of the Member States and the national Parliaments of the Member States.