

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1983 - 1984

19 May 1983

DOCUMENT 1-343/83

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr COTTRELL

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on freedom of information and access to the
media in Greece

PE 84.910

The European Parliament,

- A. Considering that strict observance of freedom of information and unrestricted access to the press and media is a fundamental principle of democracy,
 - B. noting with increasing concern reports that opposition politicians in Greece are being denied access to the state television network,
 - C. recalling that a number of newspapers, including Vradini, have been prosecuted for publication of articles alleged to be unfavourable to the Socialist Government,
 - D. concerned at action taken by the Greek Socialist Government to control the price and thus the circulation of daily newspapers,
 - E. dismayed that a democratic government within the Community should resort to claims that opposition politicians are spreading rumours to discredit the Government as an excuse for unwarranted interference with the freedom of the press,
1. Requests the Commission to submit an urgent report to Parliament as to whether the elementary principle of freedom of information and access to the media is being breached in Greece, and if this is shown to be the case, state the consequences for full participation by Greece in the affairs of a democratic Community,
 2. Further requests the Commission to consider whether reference to the European Court is required, in the light of the investigations requested above.