

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1983-1984

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DOCUMENT 1-438/83 /rev.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr PENDERS, Mr MOMMERSTEEG and Mrs VAN DEN HEUVEL

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on extrajudicial executions

PE 85.312/rev.

The European Parliament,

- A - believing that the arbitrary taking of human life is completely unacceptable under any circumstances,
- B - believing that the principle of protection from arbitrary deprivation of life should be given the highest priority,
- C - believing that governments carry the prime responsibility for the observance of this principle,
- D - believing that this responsibility is not invalidated by considerations of national security or by the fact that oppositional groups commit the same atrocities,
- E - deploring the fact that without any form of trial certain governments have taken the lives of prisoners because of their political or religious convictions, their political activities or their ethnic origin,
- F - whereas hundreds of thousands have fallen victim to extrajudicial executions in the last ten years,
- G - believing that it is the duty of governments to prevent extrajudicial executions taking place,
- H - believing that it is also the duty of governments to ensure that those responsible for such deeds are brought to trial,
- I - having regard to the final declaration of the international conference organized by Amnesty International on extrajudicial executions on 2 May 1982 in Amsterdam;
 1. Declares that the international community should regard extrajudicial executions as a matter of extreme importance and that every effort should be made to put an end to this violation of the right to life;
 2. Urges all governments to take steps to prevent extrajudicial executions being carried out by military or security police or other organs for which they are responsible;
 3. Trusts that the military and the police will be trained in accordance with regulations forbidding extrajudicial executions;
 4. Calls on governments to allow independent bodies to investigate the extent to which the situation in their countries conforms to requirements;
 5. Calls on governments equally to urge other governments to permit such investigations;
 6. Believes that inter-governmental organizations should use existing instruments for research, reports, use of good offices, and other forms of rapid intervention;
 7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the EPC Ministers, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, and the Secretary General of the United Nations.