

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr ALMIRANTE, Mr BUTTAFUOCO, Mr PETRONIO
and Mr ROMUALDI

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on American restrictions on meat imports

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Law No. 2752 of 30.1.1973, Law No. 5980 of 13.6.1973 and Law No. 21149 of 6.9.1972 enacted by the Government of the United States of America with a view to prohibiting access to the national market for meats from countries in which any case - even isolated - of swine or epizootic foot and mouth disease has been reported,
 - whereas the typical Parma ham falls into this category,
 - whereas tests and detailed analyses have shown that at the time of export and release onto the market, this product is free from and immune to any risk of infectious and contagious diseases,
 - whereas, moreover, this product undergoes a seasoning and salting process for the period prescribed by the law governing the trade description of Parma ham (12 months) which is sufficient to neutralize the pathogenic agents present in the animal and therefore in fresh meat,
 - whereas the food industry forms an important part of the economy of the Emilia region,
 - stressing the fact that this industry provides employment not only in the animal farming sector but also in the agricultural food products and commercial sectors,
1. Calls on the Commission to consider measures such as the setting up of a joint committee of European and American experts in order to establish standards which do not penalize this category of products unnecessarily;
 2. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission.