

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr PROTOPAPADAKIS
pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure
on restricting the systematic use of brain-
washing by political parties

The European Parliament,

- A - whereas a democratic form of government can function properly only if citizens are able to express their free will;
- B - whereas, as research by PAVLOV, SKINNER and others have demonstrated, the technique of brain-washing can lead people to represent as their own wishes things which are not the products of their free will but have been suggested to them by organized external influences, using the technique described above;
- C - whereas brain-washing differs from ordinary process of persuasion in that people can oppose the latter by means of logic, but it is very difficult to resist the former unless they have undergone special training, which very few citizens are able to do (for which reason the effect of brain-washing may be compared with that of drugs);
- D - whereas brain-washing is a scientific discovery in the field of psychology, the ethics of which require that it be used only for therapeutic purposes and, in particular, to erase the effects of brain-washing on a patient, with his consent, if possible;
- E - whereas today it is easier than ever before to brain-wash large numbers of people with the technical means available and mass media;
- F - whereas it is even more difficult for children than for adults to resist brain-washing both for social reasons (lack of experience) and for physiological ones (impressionable brains);
- G - whereas certain political parties seeking to influence the wishes of citizens with the objective aim of increasing their political power resort to systematic brain-washing instead of using persuasion, a means which has been inseparable from the concept of democracy from its very beginning and throughout its development;
- H - whereas they achieve this by entrusting the research and planning to apolitical scientists who, unfortunately, are prepared to 'sell' this precious technique to organizations wishing to use it to exploit mankind rather than to cure psychological illnesses;
- I - whereas election campaigns and programmes of political parties that are planned by apolitical technocrats using the methods described above are based not on the political ideology of those parties but on the wishes (and the most superficial wishes at that) of the public; they are designed to please the public, not to promote democracy.

1. Condemns the systematically organized use of brain-washing by political parties to influence the free will of citizens;
2. Calls on the Commission to take suitable action to inform the citizens of Member States of the dangers that may arise from the use of brain-washing in politics;
3. Calls on the Member States to introduce suitable legislation to restrict the use of brain-washing in general and in schools in particular;
4. Calls on scientists familiar with the technique of brain-washing not to 'sell' it to organizations which intend to use it for political purposes;
5. Calls on political parties and politicians to prepare election campaigns and political programmes by themselves in accordance with their own political ideology rather than entrust this task to apolitical persons;
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Governments of Member States and associations of scientists concerned with this question.