European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr BROK, Mrs CASSANMAGNAGO-CERRETTI, Mr BEUMER,
Mr PEDINI, Mr ESTGEN, Mrs GAIOTTI DE BIASE, Mr DILIGENT,
Mr DIANA, Mr FRANZ, Mr VANDEWIELE, Mr KAZAZIS, Mr CHANTERIE,
Mr COSTANZO and Mr LUSTER

on behalf of the Group of the European People's Party
(CD-Group)

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the integration of the children of migrant workers
in the Community

The European Parliament,

A - whereas the number of children of migrant workers in the Community is continually rising,

B - whereas there is an increasing tendency for national ghettos to develop with segregation in all areas of society, culture and economic life apart from employment,

C - whereas this is particularly harmful to the potential development of the children of whom only a small percentage take part in the preschool nursery education of the host country in many places,

D - whereas schools do not prepare these children adequately for life either in their native country or in their country of residence,

E - whereas inadequate integration leads firstly to social isolation in leisure activities and secondly to severely reduced opportunities for vocational training,

F - whereas the emergence of a 'second generation' of children of foreign workers who have lost practically any possibility of returning to their native country represents a special problem for the Community,

G - whereas it must be the overriding aim in every Member State to give the children of migrant workers equal opportunities to participate in social life without destroying the national and cultural identity of the family with the native country and at the same time retaining the option of a freely-taken decision to return,

H - having regard to the resolution of the European Parliament on the education of the children of migrant workers (Doc. 1-329/81),

1. Urges that the isolation of foreign families and their children should be eliminated, a first step towards which would be an improvement in living conditions;

2. Takes the view that intensive efforts directed at parents should be made in the Member States to break down reservations concerning the educational system of the host country;

3. Considers it important that remedial language training begin at the pre-school stage, that foreign children should attend the normal nursery schools in the host country in as large numbers as possible and that parents should be involved in nursery school work;

4. Calls for supportive and remedial courses to be set up in schools to smooth the transition from schools in the native country to schools in the host country, and, where possible, for intensive remedial classes for foreign children with inadequate language skills to prepare them for transition into the normal classes; where possible native and foreign teaches should be used;

5. Urges that language instruction for the children of foreign workers should continue at the secondary level and that an intensive campaign should be mounted to provide information on the employment market and jobs;

6. Considers it necessary that syllabuses should be organized to promote mutual understanding between foreign and native school children and thus engender respect for different cultural identities;

7. Urges that native and foreign teachers should be enabled by in-service training and retraining measures to adapt themselves to the particular problems of teaching foreign school children;

8. Urges the Commission to take due account of the problems of providing instruction for the children of migrant workers in its pilot projects for teachers;

9. Urges that pilot projects should receive aid from the European Social Fund with the aim of promoting contact between the children and parents of different nationalities and the integration of foreign children;

10. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission of the European Communities.