

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mrs VAN HEMELDONCK, Mr GLINNE, Mr VAN MIERT,
Mr VERNIMMEN, Mrs GREDAL, Mr DURY, Mr JAQUET, Mr FUCHS,
Mr PLASKOVITIS, Mrs VAN DEN HEUVEL, Mr HORGAN,
Mrs FUILLET, Mr SABY, Mrs WIECZOREK-ZEUL, Mrs VIEHOFF,
Mr VON DER VRING, Mr ROGERS, Mrs WEBER, Mr HANSCH
Mr MEGAHY, Mr RADOUX, Mrs VAYSSADE, Mr ALBERS, Mrs CLWYD

with request for topical and urgent procedure
pursuant to Rule 48 of the Rules of Procedure

on the American embargo

The European Parliament,

- A - having regard to the decision of the United States Government of 22 June 1982 extending the technological embargo proclaimed on 30 December 1981 on the export and re-export of technical data and products relating to the prospecting, extraction, transport and refining of oil and gas to include the subsidiaries of American undertakings in Europe and European undertakings operating under an American licence,
- B - whereas action of this kind is at variance with the principles of international law in positing the extraterritoriality of the American legislation concerned,
- C - whereas construction of the gas pipeline between Siberia and Europe is most unlikely to be significantly delayed by action of this kind, particularly as the Soviet Union will do its utmost to become independent of Western sources of supply in the production of turbines and compressors,
- D - whereas therefore, serious economic and political implications may be raised by this American action,
- E - convinced that the purchase of natural gas from the USSR is quite compatible with the European Community's policy to increase its autonomy in energy supplies by diversifying its sources of supply and economizing on its own energy potential,
- F - whereas Russian gas supplies will represent only 4% of the Community's total energy consumption when they reach their estimated peak in 1990,
- G - whereas European interests are being damaged to a significant degree by this American action, not only directly in its effect on the industries involved but also indirectly in its effect on the supply industries,
- H - whereas compliance with the embargo by the industries concerned could result in the total loss of a European sales market with clearly unfavourable consequences for employment,
- I - whereas, furthermore, in complying with the embargo and thus committing a unilateral breach of validly concluded contracts, the industries concerned would be regarded by all their current and potential trading partners as untrustworthy suppliers,

J - whereas, export control measures of this kind will do nothing to improve the climate of international trading confidence,

1. Notes that the American Government's decision to give effect to the embargo by warning that sanctions will apply to industries which are legally fulfilling their contracts, cannot be accepted by the Community for the reasons set out above;
2. Calls on the Council to urge the American Government to see that the embargo is revoked without delay;
3. Calls on the Council to ascertain to what extent the American sanctions can be circumvented, and to examine what counter-measures can be taken;
4. Calls on the Commission urgently to put forward proposals to this end;
5. Asks the Community in any case to raise the issue of the American measures at the GATT ministerial meeting on 23-26 November next;
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation and the United States Government.

