

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1980 - 1981

16 September 1980

DOCUMENT 1-386/80

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr LANGES, Mr KLEPSCH, Mr VERGEER,
Mr MACARIO, Mr JANSSEN van RAAJ, Mr ESTGEN,
Mr PFLIMLIN, Mr HERMAN and Mr O'DONNELL

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

pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure

on the choice of Olympia as the permanent
site of the Olympic Games

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the fact that 41 nations did not take part in the last Olympic Games in Moscow in order to protest against the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan,
 - in the belief that it would be unrealistic to suppose that the Olympic Games, as they are moved from one country to another, could take place in a world uninfluenced by politics,
 - considering that the only way to preserve the Olympic ideal in the long term is to cease changing the location,
 - therefore concluding that the only logical solution ensuring the continuation of the Olympic Games would be to designate Olympia as the permanent site from 1988 onwards,
 - having regard to the proposal by the Greek Head of State, Mr Karamanlis, putting forward this solution and agreeing to designate Olympia a territory independent of the Greek Republic with a separate status under international law,
 - considering that the development of Olympia as a permanent site for sporting contests would be economically advantageous and beneficial to sport,
 - referring to the resolution adopted by the European Parliament on 15.2.1980¹, which expressly welcomed the proposal by President Karamanlis and asked for the establishment of a permanent site,
1. Requests the Commission to amend the preliminary draft budget for 1981 to provide 10 million EUA towards preparations for the development of the Olympic sports facilities in Olympia and to establish contacts with Greece with a view to considering the technical details and the exact purposes to which the appropriations are to be put;

¹ OJ No. C 59 of 10.3.1980, p.57.

2. Asks the IOC to approve the proposal by President Karamanlis as soon as possible.

Justification

On 1 January 1981 Greece will become the tenth Member State of the European Community. Through the deliberations on the Commission budget for 1981 the European Parliament would like to make it clear to the people of Greece, to the colleagues who will then be Members of the European Parliament, and above all to President Karamanlis, that for the reasons explained above it fully supports the principle of 'Olympic Games in Olympia'. It therefore requests an initial appropriation of 10 million EUA in the 1981 budget.

This sum should be made available in order that a comprehensive international invitation to tender for the whole of the Olympic complex may be issued in 1981. This should assist the IOC in reaching a decision. It should also demonstrate clearly that the European Community supports the Olympic Games, but that the Olympic Committee must break new ground if the Olympic Games are to be saved.