

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1979 - 1980

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12 NOVEMBER 1979

DOCUMENT 1-486/79

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mrs BONINO, Mr CAPANNA and Mrs MACCIOCCI

pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure

on conditions in prisons in Community countries

The European Parliament,

- considering that the fundamental rights recognized in the European Convention on Human Rights must be denied to no-one;
  - noting that tens of thousands of persons in the Community are at present deprived of their freedoms, as a consequence of the application of preventive detention systems, without having been tried;
  - noting, furthermore, that material conditions in prisons, for both convicts and persons in preventive detention, vary enormously from one member country to another;
  - noting also that there have recently been frequent demonstrations by prisoners in several member countries in protest against conditions of detention and that there is an alarmingly high suicide rate among prisoners;
1. Recommends its Legal Affairs Committee, in conjunction with the Sub-committee on Human Rights when it has been set up, to make every possible endeavour to present to Parliament, as soon as possible and at any rate before the end of 1980, a comprehensive report on the condition of prisoners in the Community countries;
  2. Recommends the Council of Ministers of Justice to consider as a matter of urgency the desirability of aligning conditions in prisons on the most liberal system existing in the Community and to give priority to this task over its work on the European judicial area.