

European Communities

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1980 - 1981

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26 November 1980

DOCUMENT 1-633/80

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr ALMIRANTE, Mr ROMUALDI,  
Mr BUTTAFUOCO and Mr PETRONIO

pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure

on the request for emergency aid for the  
victims of the 23 November 1980 earthquake  
in Naples and the Mezzogiorno

The European Parliament,

- thanking the Commission for the laudable speed and promptness with which it has granted 1.5 m EUA as emergency aid for the areas devastated by the earthquake on 23.11.1980,
- stressing the efficiency with which the numerous measures to meet the most urgent needs of the victims of the earthquake have been implemented,

1. Points out that:

the earthquake in southern Italy has proved to be even more devastating than the most pessimistic estimates:

- a death toll in the thousands
- scores of villages razed to the ground
- hundreds of thousands of homeless
- a million houses destroyed
- communications disrupted
- economic infrastructures paralysed,

all within about 15,000 km<sup>2</sup> of mostly poor and mountainous areas, so that rescue operations and the organization of aid are rendered much more difficult;

2. Draws attention to the fact that the area affected is the area that even in normal circumstances and times is in most need of Community aid;
3. Points out that cities such as Naples, Avellino, Salerno and Potenza to mention only the most important have been hard hit by this appalling disaster so that, unless steps are taken immediately, the precarious economic and social balance vital to the recovery of the south of Italy could be upset once and for all;
4. Considering unity of action to be more important than ideological or party preferences, voices the horror felt throughout the world at this appalling calamity and calls on the Commission and the Council to increase the financial aid and intervention measures that could alleviate the suffering of the victims.