

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mrs CHARZAT, Mr GLINNE and Mr SABY

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on a halt to the arms race and the militarization of
space by the United States and the Soviet Union

English Edition

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The European Parliament,

- A. noting the talks on 7 and 8 January 1985 in Geneva between representatives of the United States and the Soviet Union on arms reduction talks,
 - B. noting the communiqué released after these talks,
 - C. deploring the continuing failure, for which the two superpowers are responsible, of arms control policy,
 - D. deeply concerned at the competition between them over the use of space for military purposes, be it for anti-missile or for anti-satellite systems,
 - E. noting that the strategic defence initiative programme of the United States and the Soviet deployment of anti-satellite systems will lead to the militarization of space and an intensification of the arms race, especially in offensive weapons, and thwart attempts to restore a strategic arms balance between the superpowers at the lowest possible level,
 - F. deeply concerned at such developments which threaten the security and peace of the world and of the peoples of Europe,
 - G. whereas the race to militarize space tends to favour attack rather than defence, which is more problematic, difficult, costly and complex and whereas such a race cannot in any case eliminate the potential for mutual assured destruction,
 - H. noting that nuclear deterrence, consisting of an arms balance between the two superpowers at the lowest possible level, has since 1949 been the best guarantee of the non-use of force,
1. Reaffirms, as the representative of the peoples of the European Community, its concern for the peaceful use of space;
 2. Requests that the United States and the Soviet Union, together with the states of Europe, enter into genuine multilateral talks with a view to keeping new anti-ballistic technologies within properly controlled and verified limits and imposing a very strict limit on anti-satellite systems, including the banning of high-orbit anti-satellite systems;
 3. Requests a renewable five-year moratorium on the deployment on the ground, in the atmosphere and in space of directed energy weapons systems and on testing;
 4. Requests that at the same time the United States and the Soviet Union reach a stable nuclear arms level, based on a verifiable balance in terms of nuclear missiles, thus breaking the never-ending arms-race cycle, and calculated according to the lowest possible balanced capacities. The technological race between the United States and the Soviet Union over the last two decades has clearly shown that every advance in atomic weapons interception is matched by a corresponding advance in penetration and that the permanent rivalry between the superpowers over logistic strategy runs counter to the principles of arms control and contributes to destabilization;
 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Foreign Ministers of the EEC, the President-in-Office of the Council, the President of the Commission and the Commission itself.