

European Communities

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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DOCUMENT 337/75

## Report

drawn up on behalf of the Associations Committee

on the ~~the~~ Additional Protocol to the Association Agreement between the European Economic Community and Greece consequent on the accession of the New Member States to the European Economic Community (Doc. 87/75)

Rapporteur: Mr A. TERRENOIRE

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English Edition



By letter of 29 April 1975, the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament, pursuant to Article 238 of the EEC Treaty, to deliver an opinion on the Additional Protocol to the Association Agreement between the European Economic Community and Greece consequent on the accession of new Member States to the Community (Doc. 87/75).

During the European Parliament's part-session of 12-16 May 1975 these proposals were referred to the Associations Committee as the committee responsible and to the Committee on External Economic Relations for its opinion.

On 2 July 1975 the Associations Committee appointed Mr Alain Terrenoire rapporteur.

At its meeting of 22 October 1975 the committee unanimously adopted the motion for a resolution and the explanatory statement with two abstentions.

Present: Mr Schuijt, chairman; Mr Hansen, vice-chairman; Mr Terrenoire, rapporteur; Mr Barnett, Mr Bersani (deputizing for Mr Pöher), Mr Boano, Mrs Caretoni Romagnoli, Mr Carpentier, Mr Concas, Mr Corrie, Mr D'Angelosante (deputizing for Mr Lemoine), Mr Girardin, Mr Glinne, Mr Hughes, Mrs Kellett-Bowman (deputizing for Mr Jakobsen), Mr Klepsch, Mr Pianta (deputizing for Mr De Clercq), Mr Rivierez, Mr Schulz and Mr Vetrone.

The opinion of the Committee on External Economic Relations is attached.

C O N T E N T S

	<u>page</u>
A. MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION .....	5
B. EXPLANATORY STATEMENT .....	6
Opinion of the Committee on External Economic Relations ...	9

A

The Associations Committee hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution, together with explanatory statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on the Additional Protocol to the Association Agreement between the European Economic Community and Greece consequent on the accession of new Member States to the Community.

The European Parliament,

- having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 238 of the Treaty on the final text of the Additional Protocol to the EEC-Greece Association Agreement signed in Brussels on 28 April 1975 (Doc. 87/75);
  - having regard to the report of the Associations Committee and the opinion of the Committee on External Economic Relations (Doc. 337/75);
1. Considers that the Association Agreement should be extended to the three new Member States as soon as possible;
  2. Notes with satisfaction that the Interim Agreement, designed to ensure advance application of the provisions on trade in the Additional Protocol extending the Association to the three new Member States of the Community, came into force on 1 July 1975;
  3. Hopes that the new Additional Protocol, signed on 28 April 1975, will be ratified and implemented without delay;
  4. Stresses the need to extend the Association Agreement to the three new Member States in its entirety, since Greece's recent request for membership suggests that Association relations are developing satisfactorily, and could open the way for full Greek membership of the EEC.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENTINTRODUCTION

1. The Agreement creating an Association between the European Economic Community and Greece was signed on 9 July 1961, in Athens.

Since this date, therefore, Greece has enjoyed Association status with the European Economic Community. This Association provides for particularly close relations in all sectors, in accordance with Article 72 of the Treaty of Association, which provides that 'As soon as the operation of this Agreement has advanced far enough to justify envisaging full acceptance by Greece of the obligations arising out of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, the Contracting Parties shall examine the possibility of the Accession of Greece to the Community.'

The accession of Denmark, the United Kingdom and Ireland to the European Community has raised the issue of extending the Association Agreement to these new Member States. For this reason, an Additional Protocol extending the EEC/Greece Association Agreement to the three new Member States of the EEC has been drawn up.

2. Negotiations between the two parties concerned on the Additional Protocol were completed on 5 May 1975.

3. The Commission has submitted to the Council a Recommendation for a Regulation (EEC) of the Council on the conclusion of an Additional Protocol between the European Economic Community and Greece, and a Recommendation for a decision of the Council authorizing it to open negotiations with Greece for the conclusion of an Interim Agreement.

4. The stipulated timing of the entry into force of the Additional Protocol extending the Association Agreement to the three new Member States makes immediate application impossible: some time is indeed necessary for the completion of ratification procedures in the Member States and Greece.

5. This situation has led the Commission to request advance application of the provisions on trade in the Association Agreement between the new Member States and Greece. The Commission consequently recommended the Council to authorize it to open negotiations with Greece to this effect.

The proposed agreement is based on Article 113 of the Treaty.

6. The Interim Agreement came into force on 1 July 1975. This is a significant step forward for the EEC/Greece Association. The advance application of the provisions on trade in the Additional Protocol remain of the greatest significance, particularly in the light of the development of the Association, towards possible full Greek membership of the EEC in the future.

7. The extension of the Treaty of Association to the new Member States of the European Community is particularly important today, in the light of the recent request for membership made by Greece on 12 June 1975.

This request for membership is based on Article 237 of the EEC Treaty, Article 205 of the Euratom Treaty and Article 98 of the ECSC Treaty.

#### THE EEC/GREECE ASSOCIATION

8. The committee points out that, following the coup d'etat of 21 April 1967, the political regime in Greece underwent considerable changes and, as a result, it was decided to 'freeze' the application of the Association Agreement. There is now an evident need to make up, as far as possible, for that period, during which no real progress was made towards the objectives of the Treaty of Association.

9. The results of the work of the Ninth Meeting of the EEC/Greece Joint Parliamentary Committee in Athens on 25 and 27 June 1975 call for a number of observations.

Firstly, Greece affirmed that its accession to the EEC should in no way prejudice existing relations between the EEC and Turkey and that, in addition, it might represent a positive step towards finding a peaceful solution, based on democratic principles, to the problems underlying the conflict between Greece and Turkey.

10. With the new political situation in Greece, we can now consider the future with a certain degree of optimism; it would seem that the attaining of objectives common to both countries has been made easier by the position adopted by all the political forces in Greece vis-à-vis the European Community. It has been affirmed that these forces are willing to accept the rules and political structures of democracy required for European Union. It naturally follows that all political forces in Greece possess a strong desire for closer contacts with the European Economic Community.

## CONCLUSIONS

11. The committee feels that the proposals under consideration should be approved as they come within the framework of existing relations between the EEC and Greece, of which they constitute a key element.

It seems clear that, in the light of Greece's request for membership and possible future developments in relations between the two parties from association to full Greek membership, we should support the Interim Agreement with Greece on the advance application of the provisions on trade in the Association Agreement. This would enable the two parties to establish the commercial and economic relations required for the development of the Association into Greece's full membership of the EEC.



OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS

Draftsman: Mr G. BOANO

On 20 May 1975 the Committee on External Economic Relations appointed Mr Boano draftsman.

It considered the draft opinion at its meeting of 17 September 1975 and adopted it unanimously.

Present: Mr Kaspereit, chairman; Mr Scott-Hopkins and Mr Bermani, vice-chairmen; Mr Boano, vice-chairman and draftsman; Mr Bayerl, Mr Bersani, Mr Brégégère, Lord Castle, Mr De Clercq, Mr Dunne, Mr Dykes, Mr E. Muller, Mr Nyborg, Mr Radoux, Mr Schulz, Mr Spicer, Mr Thornley and Mr Vetrone.

## INTRODUCTION

1. In the case of the Association with Greece, the accession of Denmark, Great Britain and Ireland to the European Community has made it necessary to draw up an additional protocol, extending the EEC/Greece Association Treaty to the new Member States of the EEC.
2. Negotiations between the two parties on the additional protocol were concluded at the meeting in Brussels on 5 May 1975.
3. On the basis of decisions taken on that occasion, the Commission has submitted to the Council:
  - a recommendation for a Council Regulation on the conclusion of the additional protocol to the Agreement establishing an Association between the European Economic Community and Greece consequent on the accession of new Member States to the Community;
  - a recommendation for a Council Decision concerning the opening of negotiations with Greece on an Interim Agreement consequent on the accession of new Member States to the Community.
4. The Interim Agreement to provide for advance application of the provisions on trade in the additional protocol, extending the Association to the three new Member States, entered into force on 1 July 1975.

## CONCLUSIONS

5. The Association Agreement should be extended to the three new Member States as soon as possible.

This has become even more important after Greece's recent request for accession to the EEC. It is felt that if the Commission delivers a favourable opinion to the Council on the accession of Greece to the EEC, the process of integration and economic inter-dependence between the two parties should be effected by the most appropriate means and at the most appropriate time; for that very reason, and in the light of possible future developments regarding Association and perhaps accession, relations of Association should be extended to the new Member States as soon as possible.

6. When Greece was under a dictatorship, relations of Association were brought to a standstill. We must now, as far as possible, make up for that period, during which there was not only no progress towards the objectives of the Treaty of Association, but it was also impossible to take into account the evolution of the economic, financial and social sectors.

7. For the reasons given above, our committee should support the Commission documents under consideration.

