



European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr de VRIES

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on death penalty in the United States

PE 97.675

The European Parliament,

- A. recalling its resolution of 18 June 1981 on the abolition of the death penalty in the European Community (doc. 1-65/81),
- B. noting with concern that in the United States 21 prisoners were executed in 1984, the highest figure in any year since 1963, and that nine prisoners have been executed since the beginning of 1985,
- C. further noting that at present more than 1400 prisoners in the USA are under sentence of death in 33 states, the highest figure ever recorded in that country,
- D. considering that the death penalty is a form of cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment and a violation of the right to life, even when scrupulous legal procedures are followed,
- E. deplores the re-introduction of the death penalty in 38 states in the United States and current moves to re-introduce the death penalty as a punishment for certain federal offences,
 - 1. calls upon the appropriate authorities in the United States not to re-introduce the death penalty at federal level,
 - 2. Calls upon the Member States of the European Community to impress the opinion of the European Parliament upon the US Administration and the US Congress;
 - 3. Instructs its delegation to the US Congress to raise this question at their next meeting;
 - 4. Instructs its President to transmit this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the President of the United States, the US Government and the US Congress.