

## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1980 - 1981

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15 April 1980

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by

Mr FERGUSSON on behalf of the European Democratic  
Group,

Mr BLUMENFELD on behalf of the Group of the  
European People's Party,

Mr BERKHOUWER on behalf of the Liberal and  
Democratic Group

with request for urgent debate  
pursuant to Rule 14

on the plight of the Americans held captive  
in Tehran

The European Parliament,

- recalling its resolutions of 16 November 1979 and 14 March 1980 requiring the Iranian authorities to effect immediately the release of the hostages held in the Embassy of the United States of America in Tehran,
  - further recalling the resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations requesting the imposition of economic sanctions on Iran if the hostages continue to be held captive,
  - welcoming the statement of the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation on 10 April 1980 in Lisbon,
  - recognizing the danger that prolonged violation of international treaty obligations can lead to the use of force in the pursuit of just objectives,
  - anxious that traditional friendly relations between Iran and the countries of the European Community be restored as soon as possible,
  - expressing its deep sympathy with the hostages and with their families in the United States of America,
1. Renews its condemnation of the Iranian authorities for permitting the illegal detention of diplomatic personnel;
  2. Calls again, therefore, on the Iranian authorities to contrive the speedy release of those hostages, giving a specific date for this release;
  3. Urges the Nine:
    - to take all necessary and practicable steps, acting in full consultation with the United States of America and other members of the Atlantic Alliance, to oblige the Iranian authorities to release the hostages,
    - to formulate a common policy in this regard and with due consideration for the critical political conditions in the region, so that they can act in concert,
    - to contemplate, in the event of the hostages not being released, the suspension of diplomatic relations between Iran and the Member States of the Community;

4. Expresses, in countering this grave threat to peace and to the rule of international law, its support for the United States of America as the principal victim, at present, of this outrageous breach of the normal conduct of peaceful relations between States;
5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the European Council, to the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation, to the Council and Commission, to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to the Ambassadors of Iran in the capitals of the Nine.

#### JUSTIFICATION

Urgency is required because of the gathering crisis in the Gulf area, and in order that the forthcoming meeting of the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation and of the European Council can take account of the views of the European Parliament.

