

## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1980 - 1981

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22 May 1980

DOCUMENT 1-180/80

### MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr J. O'CONNELL, Mrs E. DESMOND,  
Mr L. KAVANAGH, Mr M. O'LEARY, Mr T. MEGAHY,  
Mr P. LEZZI, Mrs B. WEBER, Mrs Y. ROUDY, Mrs M. GROES,  
Mr W. ALBERS, Mr B. KEY, Mr J. van MINNEN,  
Mr R. BALFE, Mr G. ADAM, Mr Karl SCHÖN,  
on behalf of the Socialist Group

pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure  
on Community action in favour of the handicapped



The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 118 of the Treaty of Rome which states that 'the Commission shall have the task of promoting close cooperation between Member States in the social field',
- having regard to the Treaty of Rome, Article 123, which sets out provisions for a Social Fund to improve employment opportunities for workers and raise the standard of living,
- having regard to the 1974 Council resolution establishing the Initial Programme for the Vocational Rehabilitation of Handicapped Persons,<sup>1</sup>
- having regard to the Commission Report on the Initial Community Action Programme for the vocational rehabilitation of handicapped persons,<sup>2</sup>
- noting that 1981 is the International Year of Disabled Persons,
- concerned by the fact that there are 10 million disabled persons, including both mentally and physically handicapped, in the European Community,
- noting with concern the discrimination faced by the disabled in terms of, for example, access to the environment, employment, education and housing, and conscious of the wide disparity of services and rights in Member States for the disabled,
- conscious of the lack of adequate public information and education on the rights of disabled persons,
- noting the fact that there is no positive policy for the employment of disabled people in Community institutions,
- recalling the European Communities' commitment to human rights,

Calls on the Commission:

1. To urge all Member States of the European Community to implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons by 1981 - the International Year of Disabled Persons;
2. To call on Member States to ensure within a specific time limit that access to the environment is open to the disabled in terms of adaptations of all school buildings, publicly-owned buildings, buildings opened to the public whether by payment or otherwise, and public transport vehicles; and to ensure that disabled drivers are provided all opportunities to avail themselves of cars suited to their special needs. Social Fund resources should be made available for these purposes;

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<sup>1</sup>OJ No C 30/74

<sup>2</sup>COM(79) 572 fin.



3. To encourage all Member States to appoint someone with responsibility for the handicapped at governmental level, either on a regional or national basis;
4. To call on Member States to formulate policies on housing both in the public and private sectors which would ensure adequate provision of accommodation in the Community for disabled persons and thus minimise the necessity to institutionalize such persons and maximise the opportunities for full social and economic integration;
5. To ensure that all Community institutions implement a policy of positive discrimination by introducing a quota system in their own employment of handicapped persons and by ensuring that similar systems operate in the private and public sectors of each Member State with the allocation of Community resources being made conditional upon the operation of such a system of positive discrimination for the employment of such disabled persons;
6. To encourage Member States to promote the establishment of an adequate wage level for the handicapped in sheltered and non-sheltered employment, based on the average industrial wage;
7. To introduce a special inquiry into wages and conditions in rehabilitation workshops, where Community funds are used, and an inquiry into all vocational training facilities funded by the Community to ascertain if these training facilities are accessible to the disabled with the allocation of Community resources being made conditional upon such facilities being made so accessible;
8. To ensure that disabled children are integrated into normal educational establishments, wherever possible;
9. To institute a Community study on the social and economic conditions of the disabled in Member States (income supports, conditions in homes and institutions) as part of its contribution to the Year of the Disabled;
10. To encourage and support exchanges between Member States of both teaching and training personnel and the handicapped themselves, to allow for both groups to avail themselves of the different possibilities within the Community, particularly those aided by the Social Fund;
11. To initiate, forthwith, the information campaign aimed at the general public, called for in the Initial Action Programme for the Vocational Rehabilitation of the Handicapped; doing so, in conjunction with the



Member States through a campaign of school education, radio and television programmes, exhibitions and conferences dealing with the rights of the handicapped in society in order to combat prejudice and eliminate misconceptions about the handicapped; and also to inform them, themselves, of their rights;

12. To introduce a new Community Action Programme incorporating the measures proposed in this Resolution.

Instructs its President:

To forward this Resolution to the Commission, the Council and the governments of all Member States, and requests the Commission to furnish the European Parliament with a written opinion by the end of 1980.

