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# European Communities

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1979-1980

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14 January 1980

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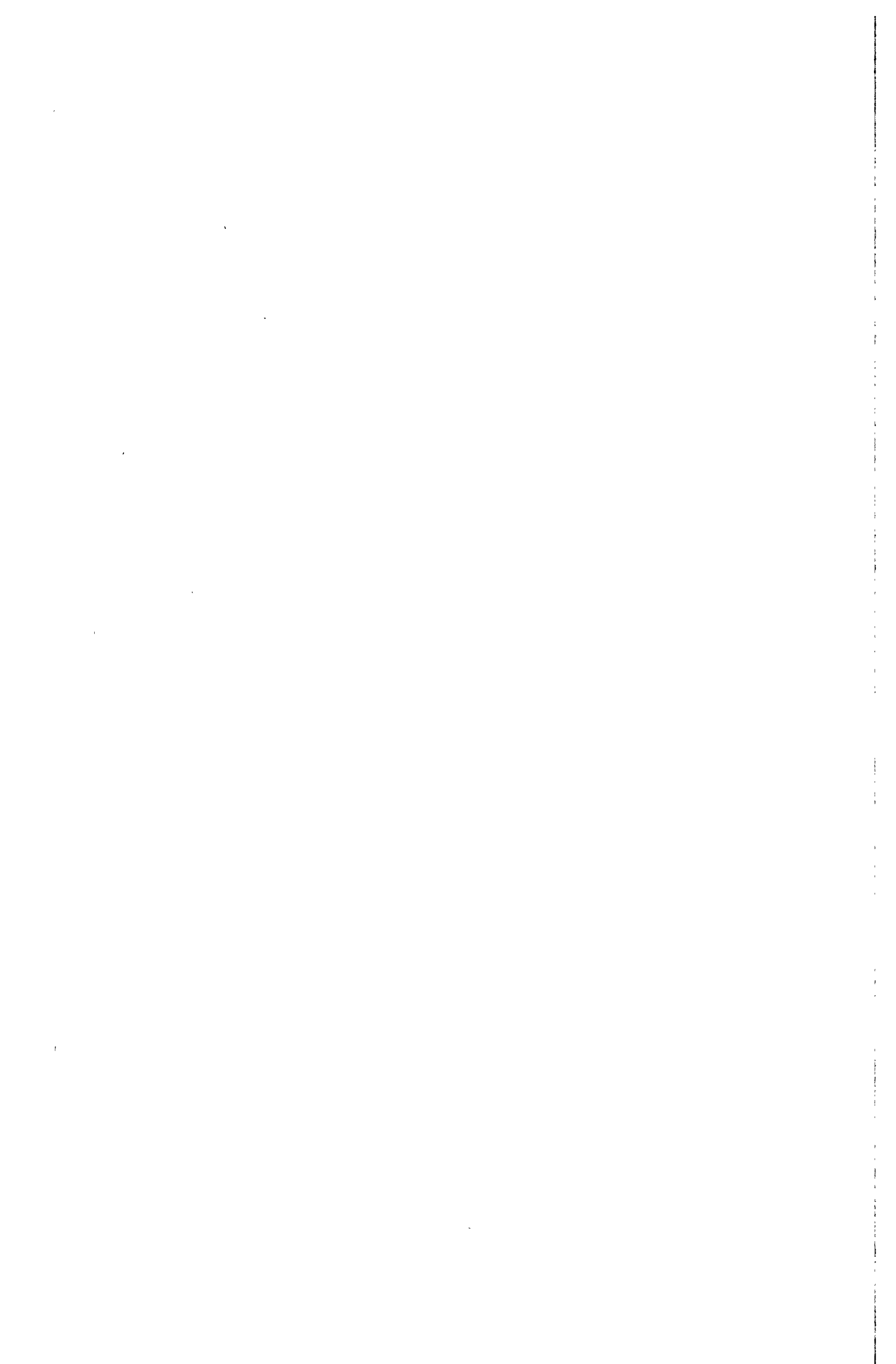
MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr ALMIRANTE, Mr PETRONIO,  
Mr BUTTAFUOCO and Mr ROMUALDI

pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure

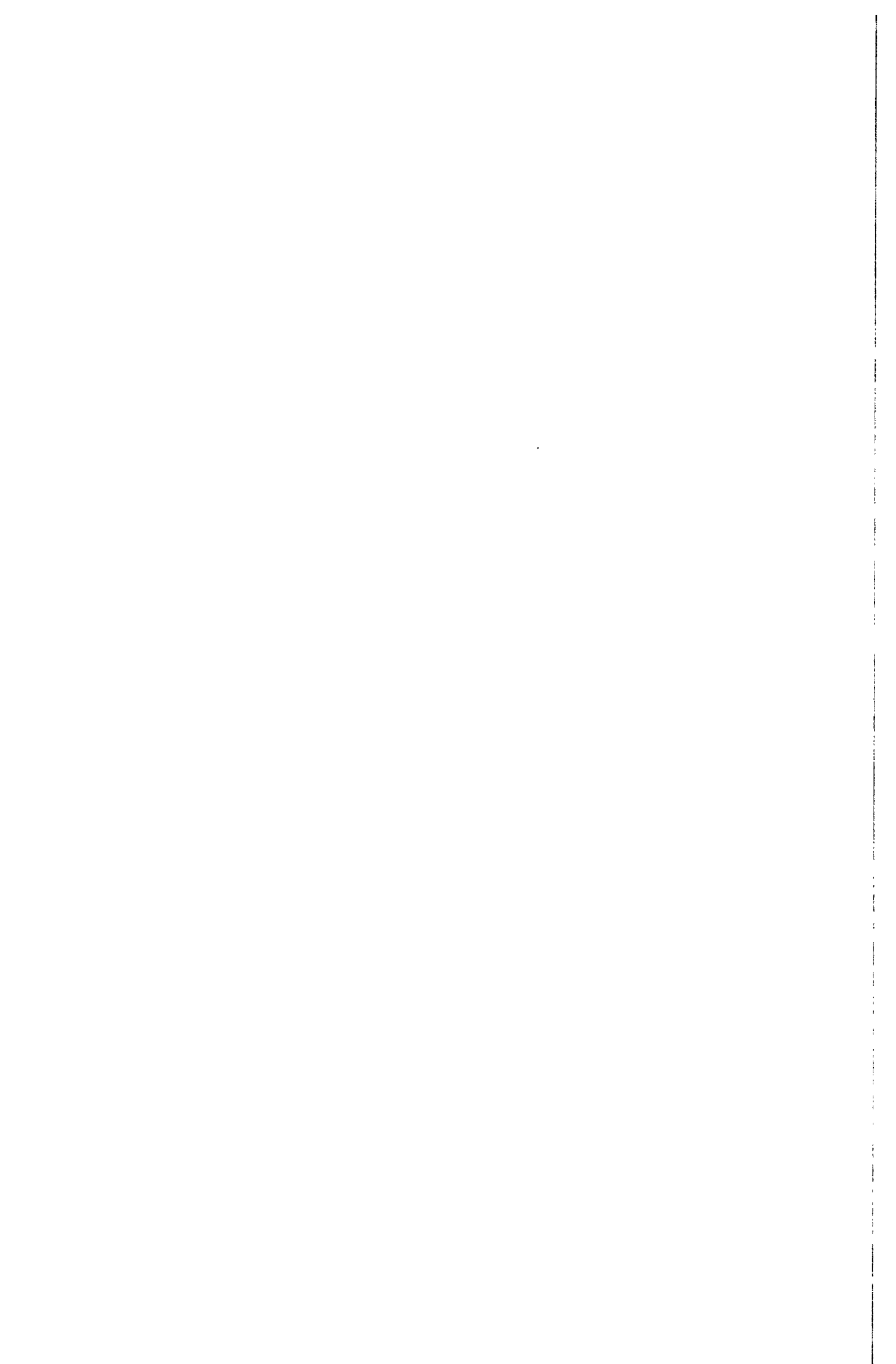
on the problems of migrant workers in the  
Community Member States

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The European Parliament,

- Having regard to the living and working conditions in Europe of migrant workers and their families who number in all, according to the most recent reports, some 13 million persons,
- Having regard to the fact that, despite the concern shown and the resolutions passed by the Council and the concern shown and proposals submitted by the Commission, migrant workers and their families still do not enjoy the most basic guarantees for the practical implementation of a programme of measures designed to defend their vital interests and fundamental rights; this is particularly important at the present time of crisis, given the worsening employment situation, the growing illegal traffic in labour as a result of the existing restrictions, and given also the presence of migrant workers in the hardest hit sectors of the economy where they and their families, particularly young people and the women members of this vast and often distressed community are the first to be affected, a community which, despite the concern expressed repeatedly on all sides, continues to be the focus of problems which are in part unsolved and in part still untackled, such as professional qualifications, recognition of diplomas, the increasing difficulty in finding a first employment, schooling and the employment of young people and women,
- Having regard to the need to make financial assistance from the European Social Fund increasingly effective on the basis of a new, open policy to implement programmes that meet the emerging requirements raised by changes in the quality of work, essential to the improvement of living and working conditions of migrant workers, and having regard also to the fact that control over the management of finance must be increasingly stringent,
- Having regard to the lack of harmonization of the social legislation of the Member States of the Community, the restrictions and complications in the application of Community statutory provisions, due in part to difficulties of interpretation the reason for which is that the extent of rights in the sphere of social security and assistance, has not been fully defined, and having regard also to the wide disparities existing between Community rules and those of the third countries from which many migrant workers come, thus leading to inequalities in treatment and difficulties in claiming benefits;
- Solemnly reaffirming the need to recognize the moral and juridical equality of all migrant workers in Europe as a human and political community in which they must feel themselves to be citizens enjoying the same rights and duties as all other citizens, regardless of their origins and the country from which they come, and reaffirming also that freedom of movement must be ensured for workers within the Community because they cannot and must not be compelled to remain at the place or in the undertaking in which they began but have the right to change their employment in order to improve their social condition, together with the right to receive and



disseminate information and ideas, the right to social security for themselves and their families and the right to equal payment for equal work and the right to respect and dignity for themselves and the nation they represent, just as they have duties to the community in which they live and work;

1. Calls upon the Commission to submit at the earliest possible opportunity a report on the situation of migrant workers, having regard in particular to the problem of social security, electoral and political rights and the conditions necessary to exercise those rights, as well as the problems of accommodation and living conditions of their families and their integration into the life of the countries in which they live and work; and obviously having regard also to the problems of employment with special reference, as mentioned earlier, to the employment of young people and women, in order to arrive at the earliest possible date, although necessarily in gradual and responsible stages, at a Statute of European Workers, a most worthy objective whose attainment this House has repeatedly called for in recent years;
2. Instructs the President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission of the European Communities.

