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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

11 March 1983

DOCUMENT 1-1364/82

Report

drawn up on behalf of the Political Affairs
Committee on human rights in the Soviet Union

Rapporteur: Lord BETHELL

The following motions for resolution were referred to the Political Affairs Committee by plenary at its sittings on:

- 7 May 1981, the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr VANDEMEULEBROUCKE on grave 23.781 at Vologda (doc.1-210/81)
- 18 June 1981, the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr PFLIMLIN on the liberation of Anatoly Shcharansky (doc.1-307/81)
- 19 February 1982, the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr MORELAND and others on the treatment of Jews in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (doc.1-833/81)
- 14 June 1982, the motion for a resolution tabled by Mrs THEOBALD-PAOLI on the right of Semion Glouzman to leave the USSR (doc.1-334/82)
- 9 July 1982, the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr CARIGLIA on emigration requirements for Jews in the USSR (doc.1-487/82)
- 5 July 1982, the motion for a resolution tabled by Mrs THEOBALD-PAOLI on the denunciation of the violations of the provisions contained in the Final Act of the Conference of Helsinki (doc.1-416/82)
- 17 September 1982, the motion for a resolution tabled by Mrs THEOBALD-PAOLI and others on the suspension of automatic telephone links between the USSR and the European Community (doc. 1-618/82/rev.)
- 11 October 1982, the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr von HABSBURG and others on the position of Germans in the USSR (Doc. 1-644/82)
- 15 October 1982, the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr SCHALL and others on the use of prison labour in the Soviet Union for the construction of a gas pipeline between the USSR and Western Europe (Doc. 1-769/82)
- 13 December 1982, the motion for a resolution tabled by Mrs VAN HEMELDONCK, and others on emigration problems for manual workers of the Jewish faith in the USSR (Doc. 1-917/82)
- 9 February 1983, the motion for a resolution tabled by Mrs VAN HEMELDONCK on the imprisonment of Yuri Orlov (Doc. 1-1252/82)

The Committee on Transports was asked for its opinion on Doc. 1-618/82/rev., but decided not to give its opinion.

At its meeting of 10-11 November 1981, the Political Affairs Committee decided to draw up a report.

At its meeting on 4 December 1981 Lord BETHELL was appointed rapporteur.

The committee considered the draft report at its meetings of 3 November 1982, 29 November - 1 December 1982 and 22-24 February 1983.

At the last meeting it adopted the motion for a resolution as a whole by a roll call vote by 27 votes to 2.

The following took part in the vote: Mr RUMOR, chairman, Mr HAAGERUP, vice-chairman, Lord BETHELL, rapporteur, Mr ANTONIOZZI, Mr BARBI, Mr BERKHOUWER, Mr BOURNIAS, Mr CARIGLIA, Mrs CHARZAT (deputizing for Mr SCHIELER), Mr CROUX (deputizing for Mr DESCHAMPS), Lady ELLES, Mr EPHREMIDIS, Mrs GREDAL, Mr HABSBURG, Mr HÄNSCH, Mr von HASSEL, Mr JAQUET, Mr KYRKOS, Mr LALOR, Mr MAJONICA (deputizing for Mr KLEPSCH), Mr MOMMERSTEEG (deputizing for Mr PENDERS), Mr NEWTON DUNN, Lord O'HAGAN, Mr PELIKAN (deputizing for Mr ZAGARI), Mr PRAG (deputizing for Mr FERGUSSON), Mr ROMUALDI, Mr SCHALL, Mr SEEFELD (deputizing for Mr BRANDT), and Sir James SCOTT-HOPKINS.

This report was tabled on 4 March 1983.

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A.

The Political Affairs Committee hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution together with explanatory statement.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on human rights in The Soviet Union

The European Parliament,

- A. recalling the terms of the United Nations Universal Declaration on Human Rights, passed by the General Assembly in 1948, and of the subsequent International Covenants on Civil and Political Rights (1966) and on Social, Economic and Cultural Rights (1966), to both of which the Soviet Union adhered,
- B. reaffirming the terms of the human rights provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, signed by 35 states in Helsinki in 1975, including all Ten Member States of the European Community and the Soviet Union,
- C. noting that the Soviet Constitution of 1977 guarantees the implementation of all United Nations instruments concerning human rights and that according to Article 50 of this Constitution citizens of the Soviet Union are guaranteed freedom of speech, of the press and of assembly, meetings, street processions and demonstrations,
- D. noting that Article 51 of the Soviet Constitution guarantees all citizens the right to associate in public organisations and that Article 52 guarantees the right to religious worship,
- E. conscious of the great contribution to European civilisation and culture made by the nations that now comprise the Soviet Union and envisaging the day when these nations may be in a position to apply for European Community membership,
- F. having regard to the following motions for resolutions:
 - (a) on grave 23.781 at Vologda (doc.1-210/81)
 - (b) on the liberation of Anatoly Shcharansky (doc.1-307/81)
 - (c) on the treatment of Jews in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (doc.1-833/81)
 - (d) on the right of Semion GLOUZMAN to leave the USSR (doc.1-334/82)
 - (e) on emigration requirements for Jews in the USSR (doc.1-487/82)
 - (f) on the denunciation of the violations of the provisions contained in the Final Act of the Conference of Helsinki (doc.1-416/82)

- (g) on the suspension of automatic telephone links between the USSR and the European Community (Doc. 1-618/82/rev.)
 - (h) on the position of Germans in the USSR (Doc. 1-644/82)
 - (i) on the use of prison labour in the Soviet Union for the construction of a gas pipeline between the USSR and Western Europe (Doc. 1-769/82)
 - (j) on emigration problems for manual workers of the Jewish faith in the USSR (Doc. 1-917/82)
 - (k) on the imprisonment of Yuri Orlov (Doc. 1-1252/82)
- G. having regard to the following resolutions:
- (a) on measures to be taken by the EEC following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and on the outrageous treatment of Professor Sakharov adopted on 15 February 1980 (Doc. 1-773/79)²
 - (b) on arrest of the Scientist Andrei Sacharov adopted on 15 February 1980 (Doc. 1-778/79/rev.II)²
 - (c) on Moscow Olympic Games adopted on 15 February 1980 (Doc. 1-779/79/rev.)³
 - (d) on the situation of Anatoly SHCHARANSKY adopted on 23 May 1980 (Doc. 1-178/80)⁴
 - (e) on the meeting to be held in Madrid of the CSCE in November 1980 adopted on 15 October 1980 (Doc. 1-445/80)⁵
 - (f) on the continuing problems of Soviet Jewry adopted on 13 May 1982 (Doc. 1-23/82)⁶
 - (g) on the reduction in 1982 of the number of Jews authorized to leave the USSR adopted on 13 January 1983 (Doc. 1-1117/82)
 - (h) on the liberation of Anatoly Shcharansky (Doc. 1-1219/82)
 - (i) concerning Andrei Sakharov (Doc. 1-1229/82)
- H. Having regard to the report of the Political Affairs Committee (Doc. 1-1364/82)
1. Condemns the systematic violation by the Soviet government of the civil, political, social, economic, cultural and religious rights of the Soviet citizens;

¹ OJ C59 of 10.3.80, page 56

² OJ C59 of 10.3.80, page 55

³ OJ C59 of 10.3.80, page 57

⁴ OJ C147 of 16.6.80, page 120

⁵ OJ C291 of 10.11.80, page 24

⁶ OJ C149 of 14.6.82, page 83

2. Condemns the Soviet government's institutionalised discrimination against various national minorities and racial groups, in particular the Crimean Tartars and those of Polish, Jewish and German nationality;
3. Condemns the unprofessional use by Soviet psychiatrists, under the direction of the security police, of pain-inducing drugs as a means of punishing political dissenters;
4. Condemns the official penal regime for the convicts in so-called 'labour camps', under which a high percentage of those serving long sentences suffer permanent damage to health or even death as a result of the combination of hard physical labour, totally inadequate nutrition, insufficient medical care and hygiene in often extreme climatic conditions and also owing to accommodation unfit for human habitation and inhumane treatment by the camp guards, and calls on the Soviet Union to introduce a humane penal system in conformity with the conventions on human rights;
5. Condemns the Soviet government's repression of non-government-controlled trade unions and other citizens' initiatives, in particular the committees for peace and for the monitoring of the Helsinki Conference's Final Act;
6. Condemns the Soviet government's arbitrary interference with their citizens' privacy, family, home and correspondence, which contravenes Article 12 of the UN Universal Declaration on Human Rights and Article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
7. Condemns the Soviet government's refusal to grant their citizens freedom of movement and residence within their borders and the right to emigrate from the Soviet Union, as laid down by Article 13 of the UN Universal Declaration on Human Rights and Article 12 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
8. Condemns the Soviet government's practice of jamming the broadcasting of foreign radio programmes, censorship of foreign books, newspapers and other publications and restrictions on the movement and the contacts of foreign journalists in the USSR with Soviet citizens in contradiction with the principles of the Final Act of Helsinki;

9. Invites the Soviet authorities to ensure the resumption and proper functioning of the automatic telephone links between the Community and the USSR;
10. Calls on the Soviet government to honour its human rights obligations under the Helsinki Final Act, in particular:
 - (i) by releasing from prison Anatoli Sharansky and all other Soviet Jews persecuted because of their wish to emigrate,
 - (ii) by releasing from prison Yuri Orlov and all other people persecuted for attempting to monitor the Final Act's human rights provisions,
 - (iii) to release from internal exile Academician Andrei Sakharov, Nobel Prizewinner, and to allow him to return to his home in Moscow and to continue his scientific and public activity and to release all other people persecuted for their non-violent dissent,
 - (iv) to cease the persecution of religious believers,
 - (v) to cease the persecution of members of the feminist movement,
 - (vi) to review in a positive and sympathetic manner applications from those wishing to join their families outside the Soviet Union.
11. Invites the governments of the Ten Member States to consult together on this question and to make clear to the Soviet government by every available means, both privately and publicly, the dangerous effect of these Soviet internal policies on European Community public opinion, with consequent damage to any chance of real East-West détente and the protection of world peace;
12. Instructs the President to forward copies of this resolution to the EEC Commission, the Council of Ministers, the Foreign Ministers meeting in European Political Cooperation, and the government of the Soviet Union.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENTIntroduction

The European Parliament's interest in human rights covers every area of the world and every type of government - militarist, communist, neo-fascist, racist, even the practice of democracy in countries such as our own. And while it is sometimes argued that too much time is spent on this essentially political question, over which the European Parliament has little influence, and that there is a limit beyond which one should not interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, our Parliament has consistently maintained its determination to intervene wherever democratic principle and rights of the individual are violated.

While bearing in mind the misgivings expressed by some colleagues on this whole issue, this document will argue that, if there is one country about whose human rights record the European Community is entitled to feel special concern and special responsibility, it is the Soviet Union.

Firstly, although much of its land area lies in Asia, culturally and historically the Soviet Union is a European country and as such entitled mutatis mutandis to apply for Community membership. (It is recognised that a state is only eligible to apply if its government is elected by the people according to the principles of pluralist democracy.) Most of its population centres are in Europe, its predominant tradition is the Christian religion and, both as Imperial Russia and in recent decades under the communist system of government, its impact on Europe has been enormous.

Secondly, the Soviet Union is a superpower, one of the world's two great military machines. It possesses the means to launch nuclear war and it has armed forces, equipped with nuclear weapons, based only a few hundred kilometres, sometimes less, from Community cities. It has the physical means to destroy each of our ten countries.

Thirdly, as a result of its armies' advances at the end of the Second World War, the Soviet Union controls the external policies and strongly influences the internal policies of Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria and several other European nations. Its influence over and military presence in the German Democratic Republic are of obvious and particular concern to the German Federal Republic, a Community member state, and to the people of West Berlin, who are Community citizens.

Fourthly, the Soviet Union has joined with the Ten member states in signing not only various United Nations instruments on human rights, but also the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which has important human rights provisions. The Ten are interested in the preservation of this European agreement and in the progress of the review conferences which take place periodically.

It follows that the question of human rights of the Soviet citizen is of very special concern to the peoples of the European Community and their elected representatives. A majority of the European Parliament would probably regard the entire Soviet system, which enshrines the Communist Party as the only legitimate fountain of political power, as a violation of human rights, excluding as it does from influence over their country's destiny any citizen who is not communist by conviction or profession. Many too in Western Europe regard it as an individual's right to build up capital and invest it in profit-making enterprises, or to buy land and farm it for profit. Both are forbidden under Soviet law.

However, the present motion for a resolution makes no judgement on the merits either of the one-party state or of the Marxist-Leninist economic system. It concentrates on the Soviet Union's record as regards the civil liberty of the individual and highlights the main areas where the record falls short of the Soviet government's own Constitution or of its international obligations.

The Historical Background

The Soviet government's use of institutionalised torture and mass murder in the days of Lenin and Stalin has been chronicled in many well-known books, for instance Arthur Koestler's Darkness at Noon, Robert

Conquest's The Great Terror and Alexander Solzhenitsyn's The Gulag Archipelago. It was also admitted, in part at least, by the then Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev in a secret speech in 1956. The number of people unjustly killed by the Soviet Union's police and security service in those years runs into many millions and in pure arithmetic exceeds the number killed by those who served Hitler's Germany. And it far exceeds the number killed in an equivalent period by the forces of Tsarist Russia.

The Soviet Union today is not as it was under Lenin and Stalin. The prison and labour-camp population has been reduced, though according to a United States Congress report it still numbers about four million, and conditions of imprisonment are no longer such as to cause large-scale death through cold and hunger. Some cases of abduction and murder by the security police (the KGB) have been alleged by political dissenters, but few established beyond doubt. With the exception of one category of prisoner, political dissidents certified as insane and confined to mental institutions, physical torture is no longer used systematically either as a punishment or to extract confessions. In these two areas the Soviet government's record is less bad than that of several South American governments.

The Soviet government's control over its population is nevertheless absolute. The state regulates almost all the economy and assigns almost all employment. The human rights abuses listed hereunder are therefore the more severe for being administered by an authority with total and unquestionable power over the individual citizen's career, education, health care, place of residence and, ultimately, over his freedom.

Repression of Non-Violent Dissent

The Soviet authorities interpret the rights guaranteed under their Constitution - freedom of speech, press, association and assembly - as applying only to those pursuing the interest of Soviet-style socialism. Anyone who makes use of these rights in another political direction can be held to be in violation of the law and charged under Article 70 of the Russian Federal Criminal Code, which prohibits "agitation or propaganda carried on for the purpose of subverting or weakening the Soviet regime", or under Article 190 which prohibits "circulation of fabrications known to be false which defame the Soviet state and system". These laws carry maximum penalties of seven years and three years imprisonment respectively.

Theoretically the prosecution in such cases must prove either a deliberate intention to damage the Soviet state (Article 70) or a deliberate falsehood which unintentionally damages the Soviet state (Article 190). They must establish the accused's mens rea*. In practice, Soviet citizens are prosecuted and imprisoned for publishing any material critical of Soviet life or of the Soviet leaders, whether true or false, whether aimed to improve the Soviet system or to destroy it. In the 65 years of Soviet rule there is no known case of an acquittal on a political charge.

Amnesty International each year adopts about 300 Soviet political prisoners, most of them convicted under these provisions, the total number of which is estimated at 10,000. This figure does not however include political dissidents convicted under non-political articles of the criminal code. For instance, two members of the Helsinki monitoring group, Alexander Ginsberg and Malva Landa, were respectively accused of currency speculation and negligently starting a fire.

Men and women holding street demonstrations or distributing leaflets are usually charged under Article 206 with hooliganism after being accused of causing obstruction in the street, insulting the police, disrupting public order or vagrancy. The problem of Soviet repression must therefore be seen in the context not of the 10,000 actually convicted of political offences, but of the total Soviet prison and labour-camp populations, which is estimated at four million. (There are only about 200,000 people in prison in the European Community, whose population is similar in number to that of the Soviet Union.) Soviet prison and camp inmates are all required to work and it is believed that they make up four percent of the Soviet labour force. In this connection we may care to consider recent allegations that part of the gas pipeline from Siberia to Western Europe will be built by convict labour.

Repression of Christian Believers

The Soviet Union is an atheist state, committed to the eventual disappearance of all religions. Its Constitution guarantees freedom of worship, as well as freedom of anti-religious propaganda, but not freedom of religious propaganda. On the contrary, the publication of religious works, including the Bible, the teaching of religion, especially to

*criminal intent

children, and the conduct of religious gatherings are all severely restricted by law. Religious believers are frequently judged to have broken these laws and imprisoned for long periods.

The Orthodox Church suffers less persecution than other religious denominations. Many churches are permitted to function and serve large congregations. There are facilities for the training of priests and for the publication of a limited quantity of religious material at the main Lavra (religious centre) in Zagorsk, one hundred kilometres from Moscow.

Religious belief, being inconsistent with communist ideology, is a barrier to employment or promotion in the ranks of government service. A person's career may be damaged if he or she permits the baptism of a child. Priests are not permitted to baptise children without parental consent.

All religious congregations must be registered with the Council for Religious Affairs, a state body, and applications are frequently refused, especially those from minority denominations such as Baptists, Pentecostals and Seventh Day Adventists. Some denominations, such as Jehovah's Witnesses, whose followers refuse to join the Soviet army, are banned outright. Conscientious objection to military service is not recognised.

Registered congregations are assigned a building for worship, but they are not allowed to organise Sunday schools, religious study or literature meetings, libraries, excursions or any other non-worship functions, nor may they provide one another with medical or financial help. Special permission, with at least fourteen days notice, must be obtained before conducting a religious ceremony in the open air or in a private house.

Severe repression is most commonly exercised against the minority sects, such as those mentioned above, for continuing to practise their religion after an application for registration has been turned down. Having no church or prayer building, they meet and pray in private homes, contrary to the law, and for this they are often arrested and sentenced to imprisonment.

Repression of Jewish Religion and Culture

The restrictions placed on Christian worship apply equally to the observance of the Jewish faith and in practice are more rigorously enforced. Unlike other religions, the Jews are not allowed to form a national or regional religious body, nor may they join any international Jewish organization or maintain organized links with Jews outside the Soviet Union.

No Jewish religious journal may be published and, in spite of Soviet claims to the contrary, copies of the Bible are hardly ever available. Nor may they be sent in from outside the country. Jewish ritual objects cannot be manufactured or sent in from abroad and restrictions are imposed on the preparation or receipt of Passover unleavened bread (matzoh).

There are 1,810,876 Jews in the Soviet Union according to the 1979 census, but only 57 synagogues, twenty of them in Georgia where the Jewish population is small. In Moscow there are 250,000 Jews but only two synagogues. There are virtually no Jewish cemeteries. Worship in private houses (minyanim) is subject to the restrictions mentioned above. Rabbinical training hardly exists.

Since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war the situation of the Jews in the Soviet Union has worsened. Jewish religion and culture have been identified in Soviet eyes with Zionism and the State of Israel. Those who preserve Jewish traditions, like Roman Catholics in Lithuania, are judged guilty of 'bourgeois nationalist tendencies' and seen as a threat to Soviet security.

This feeling has expressed itself in a decision to discriminate against use of the Hebrew language. Study of Hebrew is generally unavailable. Approved studies in the language are provided only for members of the KGB, so that they may overhear and translate Hebrew telephone conversations, and for Radio Moscow broadcasts.

Jews are excluded from many areas of Soviet life and a strictly enforced numerus clausus or in some instances numerus nullus, excludes Jewish students from the best institutions of higher education.

Since the early 1970's the Soviet media has systematically portrayed Zionism as synonymous with greed, immorality, racism, criminality, desire for world domination and even collaboration with Hitler's Germany. The

distinction between Zionists and those of Jewish origin has been blurred by the frequent depiction in newspapers of Jewish stereotypes, familiar in Germany under the Third Reich, with caricatured Jewish racial features and Jewish-sounding names, portrayed as obvious evil-doers. Examples of this tendency in the Soviet press are to be found in the book Soviet Anti Semitic propaganda, published by the Institute of Jewish Affairs in London.

The effect of this campaign is to encourage anti-semitism among the Russian people and to complicate the lives of Jewish people, whether their identification is with Zionism and Israel or with Russia or any other Soviet nation.

Jewish Emigration

In the aftermath of the 1967 war the Soviet authorities began allowing some Jews to renounce their soviet citizenship and emigrate, 229 in 1968, rising to 13,022 in 1971 and 34,733 in 1973. By the end of 1980 there were 228,685 who had left in this way, 51,303 in 1979 alone, many for Israel where they had relatives, but many too for the United States and other Western countries.

This welcome development was marred however by the Soviet government's treatment of those who applied for emigration and whose applications were on one pretext or another delayed or refused. An application to emigrate almost always results in dismissal from work, frequently in the expulsion of children from university or harassment at school. The entire family become outcasts from Soviet society, unable to retain membership in any Soviet professional or cultural organization. The otkazniki (refuseniks) number many thousands, some of whom have lived in limbo for ten years.

Deprived of access to Soviet organizations and living as they do in a society where, by law, all organizations must be controlled by an organizing 'core' appointed by the Communist Party, the otkazniki become susceptible to legal prosecution. If they organize a self-help charitable body, if they arrange groups to study the Jewish religion or Jewish law, they may be dispersed or arrested by the police and cases of conviction for such offences are frequent.

Since under the Soviet Constitution there can be no unemployment in the Soviet Union, the otkazniki also become vulnerable to arrest for "parasitism". Although deprived of the right to work, even on a menial level, they may be charged with refusing to work and on conviction imprisoned or exiled to a remote area of the country. Young men may be conscripted into the army and, on completion of service, refused permission to emigrate on the ground that they possess military secrets.

In the past three years the position of Jews wishing to emigrate from the Soviet Union has become catastrophic. The Soviet authorities will now only accept applications from those with close relatives - spouses, parents, children or siblings - who invite them to Israel under the Helsinki agreement's "family reunification" provisions. In 1980 the number of Jews emigrating had fallen from 51,303 the previous year to 21,471 and in 1981 this figure dropped away to 9,447. The projected figure for 1982 is no more than 2,700. Meanwhile there are 380,000 Jews in the Soviet Union who have requested and been sent invitations, but have not yet been able to convert them into exit permits.

The fate of Soviet Jewry, epitomised by the plight of the otkaznik Anatoli Sharansky, sentenced for alleged treason and now serving a thirteen-year term of imprisonment, continues to arouse resentment among the Jewish citizens of European Community countries as well as among many sympathising non-Jews. The whole problem is therefore a significant barrier in the way of real détente.

Racial Discrimination Against Germans

The official Soviet census of January 1979 recorded 1,936,000 Germans in the Soviet Union. In population terms the Germans occupy the fourteenth place among the more than 100 nationalities of the Soviet Union. However, the Soviet Constitution of 1977 does not provide for an administrative territory for Germans, as it does in the case of other major nationalities.

Since they were expelled from their autonomous regions on the River Volga during the Second World War, the Germans have not been allowed to return to their homeland. Instead they are scattered all over the Soviet Union, mainly in Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation. There are no schools with German-language instruction. In regions with substantial German population, children may learn German as a foreign language for a

maximum of four hours per week. There are no German cultural organisations. No newspapers, magazines or books from the Federal Republic of Germany are available, even in regions of substantial German population.

Since diplomatic relations were established between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Soviet Union in 1955, 91,000 Germans have been allowed to join close family members in the Federal Republic of Germany. The peak of German emigration was reached in 1976 with 9,704, but since 1977 the rate has continuously declined. In 1981 the figure was only 3,773, while the estimate for 1982 is 2,500.

Germans applying for exit visas are subjected to severe harassment, for example, they lose their apartments and jobs and they may be physically threatened. Young people may be refused admission to higher education. Young men may be called to military service just at the time when a decision on their exit visas is imminent. Persecution has been reported in many cases, including sentences to long periods of detention in labour camps and prisons. Among Soviet Germans recently arrested are Georg Maier, Genrikh Miller, Alexander Till and Johann Shaab.

Racial Discrimination Against Crimean Tartars

The Tartar people of the Crimea were deported en masse from their homeland in 1944 for alleged collaboration with Hitler's Germany. Many perished during their transportation to Central Asia and, although they were collectively rehabilitated in 1967, only a very small number have been allowed to return to the Crimea.

The Crimean Tartars have not been given back the houses and property confiscated from them at the end of the Second World War, nor are they permitted to buy property on the open market. The local authorities in the Crimea refuse to register the purchase of property to any person of the Tartar race.

Ludmilla Alekseyeva, a member of the former Helsinki monitoring group, says "It is pure racial discrimination. In the Crimea it is illegal to sell one's house to a Tartar. Occasionally it happens that a Tartar does manage to acquire a house in his own land. Then they simply come in with bulldozers and knock the house down. We have documents on several such cases, with photographs of the ruined houses and the family standing there out in the open."

The best known spokesman of the Crimean Tartars is Mustafa Dzhemilyov. He was originally arrested for refusing to join the Soviet army on the ground that his rights under the Constitution were not being respected. From 1969 he served a total of eight years' imprisonment in connection with his activities and he is presently serving a term of exile in Eastern Siberia.

Racial discrimination is prohibited by various United Nations decrees as well as by the Helsinki agreement and the Soviet Constitution.

Suppression of Trade Union Freedom

The main task of Soviet trade unions is to increase productivity. It is not their function to confront the management on such issues as pay or conditions of work. These are determined by the state under the principle known as "democratic centralism". Instead of being elected by the workers, trade union leaders are appointed by the Communist Party after consultation with the management of the enterprise in question.

Soviet trade unions assist workers in matters of health, housing, social welfare and the administration of holiday homes. They are responsible for labour safety, although in practice they do not challenge the instructions of Party or high level management. They are, in effect, a consultative body and they are not permitted to influence management under threat of strike action. Article 69 of the Soviet criminal code makes it an offence punishable by up to 15 years imprisonment to disrupt industry, transport, agriculture or any other branch of the economy. This is the Soviet definition of a strike.

Sporadic strikes in the Soviet Union, such as at Novocherkassk in 1962 and Dneprodzerzhinsk in 1972, have been suppressed with bloodshed. There have also been attempts to set up trade unions free of Party and government control, the best known being the Association of Free Trade Unions established by Vladimir Klebanov in late 1977. Another body, the Free Inter-Professional Association of Workers, known as "SMOT", was set up a year later. However, Klebanov was confined to a psychiatric hospital, SMOT leader Vladimir Borisov was deported to Austria against his will and many other free trade union activists have been arrested.

The Soviet government also bears a responsibility for the suppression of the Polish free trade union Solidarity. In the autumn of 1981, when Solidarity was proclaiming itself willing to "hold an honest and loyal dialogue with the authorities" about Poland's economic problems, the Soviet press (Pravda, 9 October) attacked Solidarity's programme as a "counter-revolutionary document". The barrage of similar accusations against the Polish trade union in the Soviet press culminated in the imposition of martial law in Poland on 13 December and the arrest of Solidarity's leaders. The foreign ministers of the Ten have declared the Soviet authorities to be accomplices in this violation of trade union freedom.

Repression of Women's Rights Activitists

The feminist movement made its first visible appearance in the Soviet Union in 1979 in the unofficial journal Women and Russia, which contained articles about the position of women in several spheres of Soviet society. In 1980 another group, the "Maria Club", identified with the Orthodox Church, issued several publications and in January 1982 held an unofficial exhibition of feminist art.

These groups were immediately subjected to harassment by the Soviet police. Five of the leading members were forced to emigrate. Another member, Natalya Lazereva, was dismissed from her job as a theatre director and then arrested. In July 1982 she was sentenced to four years imprisonment under Article 70 for "anti-Soviet agitation".

Repression of Homosexuals

Homosexuality is a criminal offence in the Soviet Union punishable by up to seven years imprisonment. Since the cases of those convicted of homosexuality are not normally taken up by Amnesty International and other human rights organisations, it is hard to determine how many people there are in the Soviet Union presently convicted of such acts, which are not crimes in the ten EC member states. However, it is clear from available reports that dissident activity encourages the Soviet authorities to bring charges of homosexuality, whether true or false, against persons whom they wish to silence.

Mykola Plakhotnyuk is one such victim of a homosexuality charge, having previously served eight years in special psychiatric hospitals for dissident activity. He is now serving four years after conviction for "sodomy" and "corruption of minors". An Amnesty International report says, "The evidence shows beyond reasonable doubt that the charges against Mykola Plakhotnyuk were false." Another well-known person convicted of homosexuality is the film producer Sergey Paradzhanov. Generally speaking, it is a familiar tactic of the KGB to discredit dissidents with charges of immorality or sexual perversion.

The Use of Non-Judicial and Non-Custodial Punishment

Given the Soviet authorities' control over almost every aspect of the country's life, it is only rarely that they find it necessary to arrest and imprison a dissenter. A whole range of administrative punishments may be imposed at the KGB's insistence without any judicial process or right of appeal.

A Soviet citizen who persists in dissent may, after an official warning, be dismissed from his place of work and may then either be assigned a worse-paid, less-qualified job or left unemployed without income. His children may be expelled from university and conscripted into the army. His telephone may be disconnected and he may receive no mail. He may be deprived of the right to reside in Moscow or another big city.

He may be subjected to close police supervision. His visitors may be asked by plain-clothes policemen to show their identity cards before entering his house. He may receive anonymous and abusive letters or be waylaid by "hooligans" in the street.

The aim of such harassment is to isolate the dissenter from the main bulk of Soviet citizens who conform to the rules, whether willingly or unwillingly. In a society where mere friendship or association with a dissenter may itself bring official sanction, it is only the highly motivated and highly politicised person who will embark on the path of dissent and be ready to accept the consequences of heresy.

Conditions of Imprisonment

Arrest and imprisonment are imposed on Soviet citizens who have

ignored KGB warnings and persisted with their dissident activity in spite of the administrative sanctions and punishments listed above.

Evidence provided by men and women now in the West after serving sentences in Soviet prisons and labour camps indicates that conditions, while not normally brutal or sadistic in the physical sense, are harsh and unbending to an extent where an inmate's health and safety are often at risk.

Prisoners are conveyed across great distances, often many thousands of kilometres, in specially adapted railway cars known as "Stolypin wagons". Each car has ten compartments and each compartment contains from ten to thirty prisoners. On these journeys, which may last as long as a month, prisoners receive a hot meal every fourth day, after which they are issued with cold rations to last the intervening three days. The food is inadequate in both quality and quantity.

The cars are made of metal and become very hot during the summer months. Lavatories are at the end of the corridor and guards are required to take each prisoner there individually, a duty which they dislike, the result being that they keep the prisoners' water supply to a minimum. Prisoners suffer terribly from thirst. Conditions in the overcrowded cars frequently become filthy, violence is common and death not unknown.

The standard diet laid down for men working normally in camps and observing prison discipline contains 2,500 calories. This may be supplemented by food parcels. Even so it is below standards laid down by the World Health Organisation in 1973.

Prisoners of conscience sometimes challenge prison rules. Convicted of non-violent political offences, they may demand political status, as a result of which they are often confined in punishment cells. A religious Jew who refuses to work on the Sabbath may likewise be punished for deliberately shirking or under-fulfilling his norm.

Men undergoing this punishment receive a diet of 1,300-1,400 calories on alternate days. On the other days they receive only 450 grams of rye bread, hot water and salt. The diet causes the prisoner to lose weight and damages his health. In the long run it may prove fatal.

The combination of heavy work and inadequate diet causes widespread illness, mainly duodenal ulcers and gastric problems, for which the available medical attention is rudimentary. Vladimir Bukovsky writes that a sick prisoner may be kept waiting up to two weeks before he even sees a doctor, that the doctor's main task is merely to relieve the most acute symptoms and prevent a fatal outcome, which for political reasons is considered undesirable. Dentistry is of particularly bad quality and rotten teeth are a peculiarity of former Soviet prisoners.

Punishments are inflicted for offences such as being incorrectly dressed, malingering, possessing illegal literature (such as a Bible), or failure to fulfil work norms. Apart from terms of solitary confinement, prisoners may be deprived of their visits from relatives or of their right to receive letters and parcels. They may be sentenced by a judicial body to be transferred to a stricter prison regime or from labour camp to closed prison.

Confinement in Psychiatric Hospitals and Forced Treatment

This is the darkest side of the Soviet authorities' treatment of political dissenters. The confinement of a troublesome citizen to a mental institution was known in Russia in Tsarist times. The philosopher P. Chadayev was a victim. It fits in with the totalitarian line that a person who repeatedly challenges the established order of government must be either malicious or deranged.

Victims of this practice under Soviet rule include Victor Fainberg, who later married one of the doctors assigned to treat him, Vladimir Bukovsky, Leonid Plushch and Natalya Gorbanevskaya. It is the testimony of these and several dozen other former dissidents, now in the West, which builds up a picture of the systematic use of hospitals as places of punishment and of the practice of deliberate brutality under the instructions of the KGB. Dissidents are made aware that confinement to a mental hospital is the KGB's ultimate weapon and that once confined, although perfectly sane, they will be treated with drugs that cause damage to health as well as intense pain.

An Amnesty International report concludes, "These drugs are administered indiscriminately and routinely to patients, without attention to the size of the dosage, the characteristics of the subject's physical or psychiatric

condition or the harm caused by the drugs." The drugs' side-effects include skin and blood disorders, reduced blood pressure, jaundice, muscular rigidity, slow body movement, physical restlessness and constant desire to change the body's position.

The Death Penalty

The Bolshevik authorities abandoned the death penalty soon after coming to power in 1917, then restored it. It was abolished again twice and finally restored in 1950 since when it has been imposed on Soviet citizens found guilty of an increasingly wide range of crimes. There are now eighteen different crimes for which the death penalty may be imposed in peace-time, including treason, murder, forgery, bribery and theft.

Amnesty International notes that the passing of death sentences on about thirty people each year is reported by the Soviet media, adding that this is probably only a fraction of the total number. Non-violent political dissidents have not in recent years been executed, although in 1977 and 1979 a Georgian and three Armenians were reported shot for "political terrorism". Every year a few Soviet citizens are shot for non-violent crimes such as large-scale embezzlement of state property.

The European Community's Approach to the Soviet Union and Human Rights

Although the Community has no formal relations with the Soviet Union, both are signatories to the Helsinki agreement and have undertaken to uphold its human rights provisions. The Ten use the political cooperation framework to coordinate views on human rights and express a joint position in the Belgrade and Madrid review conferences.

In December 1981 the Ten jointly protested at the Soviet government's refusal to allow Academician Sakharov's friend Lisa Alekseyeva to join her husband in the United States. A few days later she received the exit visa. In mid-July 1982 the Ten complained jointly about the Soviet Union's decision to reduce telephone links with Western countries, alleging that this was not in the spirit of the Helsinki accord.

An East European working group, consisting usually of heads of departments from the Ten foreign offices, meets every two or three months and attempts to coordinate policy vis-à-vis the Soviet bloc.

At the Madrid Conference certain member governments have submitted lists of thirty or forty political prisoners whose continued detention causes particular concern, among them the Helsinki agreement monitor Yuri Orlov and the Jewish activist Anatoli Sharansky.

The British delegate at the Madrid conference, speaking on behalf of the Ten on 27 October 1981, declared that the Soviet Union's human rights record in the past two years was one of harassment, arrests and imprisonment on a scale unequalled in recent memory. This was bound, he said, to cause unease among the people of other signatory states, to undermine confidence in the Helsinki process and in the value of the Soviet Union's other international commitments.

Conclusion

Academician Sakharov has said that every violation of human rights ought to be made into a political problem for the violating country. Ten years ago, before East-West relations deteriorated, Western organisations and individuals could make use of this idea and occasionally influence Soviet internal policy. An example of this was the Soviet Union's development, at the United State's request, of a relatively liberal policy on Jewish emigration. The Soviet government was developing commercial and other ties with the West and needed the acquiescence of Western public opinion.

Today the East-West climate is colder, Soviet internal repression is harsher and the Soviet authorities take little notice of Western protests, whether public or private. Delegates of the Ten in Madrid have put to the Soviet government the idea of making human rights the subject of an experts' meeting. The Soviet Union has not responded, preferring instead to confine discussion in Madrid to matters of security and arms limitation.

At a time when nuclear proliferation and armed conflict in various parts of the world seem to threaten the world's very survival, it may be tempting to follow the Soviet Union's advice, to shelve questions of human rights and concentrate on avoiding a holocaust. Dr Sakharov, himself a victim of Soviet repression, has admitted that the nuclear warfare issue is more important even than that of human rights.

However, given that the Ten European Community democracies have to work within limits dictated by public opinion at home and that Community public opinion is disturbed by the Soviet Union's internal repressive policies, as summarised above, it will clearly not be possible under present circumstances for the Ten governments to establish normal and friendly relations with the Soviet Union, even if they wish to do so.

Soviet human rights repression limits the extent to which the Ten can embark on the path of reconciliation with the Soviet Union and it bedevils discussions with the Soviet bloc on a whole range of issues, ranging from international sport to trade and nuclear disengagement. For this reason, if for no other, the Soviet Union's bad human rights record will continue as a matter of concern to the Community's elected representatives.

It is a problem not only for the Soviet government, but also for our own governments. And, since it makes détente more difficult to achieve, it is a threat to world peace.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION (DOCUMENT 1-210/81)
tabled by Mr VANDEMEULEBROUCKE
pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure
on grave 23.781 at Vologda

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its profound commitment to the safeguarding of fundamental human rights and individual freedoms,
- having regard to the Helsinki Agreement in which respect for these same fundamental human rights is laid down with regard to the USSR,
- whereas trade relations between the European Community and the Soviet Union cannot continually be dissociated from the violation of the most basic human rights in the USSR,
- deeply shocked by the following:

Yuri Kukk, former Professor of Electrochemistry at the University of Tartu, died at 2.20 a.m. on 26 March 1981 as a result of forced feeding in the Vologda transit camp. Kukk, an Estonian nationalist and militant campaigner on human rights, had been on hunger strike since November 1980, having been arrested on 13 March 1980 and sentenced to two years' imprisonment. After sentence, he was transferred to a prison camp near Murmansk in the Kola peninsula. On 24 March 1981, he was sent to Vologda, to the north-east of Moscow, where he died two days later just forty years of age. In 1975 and 1976, Yuri Kukk followed a course of training at the Bellevue laboratories in France. The request he made in 1979 to be allowed to emigrate was refused. Yuri Kukk was buried on Monday, 30 March 1981, in the presence of his widow and five friends. All photographic material relating to the burial has been confiscated. His grave in Vologda bears only the number allotted to him in the prison camp - 23.781,

1. Calls on the Ministers for Foreign Affairs meeting in political cooperation to impress on the Soviet authorities its profound sense of outrage at the death of Yuri Kukk and to make immediate inquiries into the position regarding the second convicted Estonian national, Mart Kilus, about whom there has been no news;
2. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION (DOCUMENT 1-307/81)
tabled by Mr PFLIMLIN
pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure
on the Liberation of Anatoly Shcharansky

The European Parliament,

- recalling its resolution, adopted on 23 May 1980 (Doc. 1-178/80) requesting the Council to urge the Soviet authorities immediately to release Anatoly Shcharansky, who had been imprisoned as a result of his fight for human rights and in particular for the right of Soviet Jews to emigrate,
 - noting that after more than a year and despite the adoption of this resolution, the situation of Anatoly Shcharansky has still not changed and that he is still in prison although his health continues to deteriorate,
1. Reiterates its appeal to the Council of Ministers to make strong representations to the Soviet authorities with a view to obtaining the release of this man, who is now in his fifth year of imprisonment as a result of his personal convictions;
 2. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION (DOCUMENT 1-833/81)

tabled by Mr MORELAND, Mr HUTTON, Miss FORSTER, Mr SELIGMAN, Lord DOURO, Mr FERGUSSON, Mr KELLETT-BOWMAN, Mrs KELLETT-BOWMAN, Mr JOHNSON, Mr PRAG, Mr NEWTON DUNN, Mr Christopher JACKSON, Mr HARRIS, Mr HORD, Mr MOORHOUSE, Mr MARSHALL, Dame ROBERTS, Lord HARMAR-NICHOLLS and Mr NORMANTON

for entry in the Register pursuant to Rule 49 of the Rules of Procedure on the treatment of Jews in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

The European Parliament,

- viewing with grave concern the alarming reduction in the number of exit permits being issued by the authorities in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) to members of the Jewish Community,
 - seriously disturbed by the reports of increasing harassment and arrests of Jews, the sole cause being their desire to leave the Soviet Union,
 - recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the undertakings of the USSR in the Helsinki Agreement relating to human rights,
1. Calls on the Foreign Ministers acting in Political Cooperation to express their concern to the government of the USSR of treatment of the Jewish Community in the USSR and to remind it of its undertakings in the Helsinki Agreement relating to human rights;
 2. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Foreign Ministers and the governments of the Member States.

Justification

The exit of Jews from Soviet Russia has virtually ceased; the teaching of Hebrew has been prevented and more Jews are being sent to camps than in any period since 1970.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION (DOCUMENT 1-334/82)

tabled by Mrs THEOBALD-PAOLI

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure on the right of Semion GLOUZMAN to leave the USSR

The European Parliament,

- A - having regard to the Helsinki Final Act and its geographical field of applicability,
 - B - having regard to the provisions on the free movement of persons in Europe,
 - C - whereas the Soviet citizen, Semion GLOUZMAN, a psychiatrist arrested in 1972 for having refused to practice in the psychiatric hospital in Kiev used by the Ministry of the Interior for the internment of dissidents and sentenced without evidence to seven years' confinement and three years' exile, wishes to be granted the right to leave the territory of the USSR,
 - D - whereas in similar cases people wishing to be granted the right to leave the USSR with their families have been subjected to several years' hardship,
1. Calls on the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation to make every effort to obtain from the Soviet authorities authorization for Semion GLOUZMAN and his family to leave the USSR.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION (DOCUMENT 1-487/82)

tabled by Mr CARIGLIA, Mr DIDO, Mr ARFE, Mr FERRI, Mr LEZZI, Mr ORLANDI, Mr PELIKAN, Mr PULETTI and Mr RIPA di MEANA pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure on emigration requirements for Jews in the USSR

The European Parliament,

- A. mindful of the individual rights of everyone, including the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country (Universal Declaration of Human Rights - Article 13(2)),
 - B. whereas, in any democratic society, respect of human rights is an integral part of international relations,
 - C. whereas no discussion of the attainment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the VIIth principle of the Final Act of Helsinki or criticism of the non-application of such rights and freedoms constitutes interference in the internal affairs of the States concerned within the meaning of the VIth principle,
 - D. whereas members of the Jewish community in the USSR who request permission to emigrate are known to be subjected to repressive measures, outrages and tyrannical acts of all kinds,
1. Calls on the USSR to undertake to pursue a more liberal and humanitarian policy towards Jewish families wishing to be reunited and, in particular, to reduce the time needed to authorize emigration for those who wish to emigrate;
 2. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the parliaments of the Member States and the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION (Document 1-416/82)

tabled by Mrs THEOBALD-PAOLI pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure on the denunciation of the violations of the provisions contained in the Final Act of the Conference of Helsinki

- A - having regard to the Final Act of the Conference of Helsinki and, in particular, the provisions of its sixth and seventh principles,
- B - whereas the Act was intended to be the cornerstone of east-west relations in Europe, its objective being to alleviate the harmful effects for the European nations of the geo-political situation which has arisen in the wake of the Second World War,
- C - whereas some of the signatory states constantly, openly and deliberately violate the spirit and even the letter of the Final Act,
- D - whereas this situation gives particular cause for concern in Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Romania, Yugoslavia, Turkey and the occupied zones of the Republic of Cyprus,
 1. Expresses its solidarity with the victims of police repression and bureaucracy in the abovementioned countries;
 2. Requests these governments to define or reiterate their position on the Final Act and on its provisions relating to the freedom of the individual;
 3. Calls on the Ministers for Foreign Affairs meeting in political cooperation to take solemn note of the violations of the Act committed by or in the abovementioned countries and to create a joint working party to keep a record of such violations;

Calls on the Council and the Commission, using the respective powers conferred on them by the Treaties, to take all necessary steps to ensure that all the provisions of the Final Act of the Conference of Helsinki are effectively implemented in their entirety;

5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the governments of the abovementioned European states, to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs meeting in political cooperation, to the Council and to the Commission.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION (DOCUMENT 1-618/82) tabled by Mrs THEOBALD-PAOLI, Mr FAJARDIE and Mr LALUMIERE pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure on the suspension of automatic telephone links between the USSR and the European Community

The European Parliament,

A having regard to the Final Act of Helsinki and in particular to the provisions thereof favouring the strengthening of communications in Europe,

B whereas the Soviet authorities have notified the postal authorities of the Member States of the suspension of automatic telephone links between the USSR and the countries of Western Europe on the grounds of 'technical necessity', and whereas no further details have been given,

C whereas these measures have detrimental consequences for trade relations, the transmission of audio-visual information and private communications between individuals,

1. Calls upon the Foreign Ministers of the European Community meeting in political cooperation to ask the Soviet authorities on what date they expect to be able to restore automatic telephone links between the USSR and Western Europe;
2. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission and the Council and to the governments and parliaments of the Member States.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION (DOCUMENT 1-644/82/Corr.)

tabled by Mr von HABSBURG, Mr BARBI, Mr AIGNER, Mr PENDERS, Mr IRMER, Mr Ingo FRIEDRICH, Mr WEDEKIND, Mr PRAG, Mrs SCHLEICHER, Mr SCHALL, Mrs RABBETHGE, Sir James SCOTT-HOPKINS, Mr HELMS, Mr JACOBSEN, Mr SCHNITKER, Lord O'HAGAN, Mrs LENZ, Mrs LENTZ-CORNETTE, Mr Konrad SCHON, Mr von HASSEL, Mr WAWRZIK, Mr RINSCHÉ, Mr MAJONICA, Mr D'ORMESSON, Mr KLEPSCH and Mr ISRAEL pursuant to rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure on the position of Germans in the USSR

The European Parliament,

- A. Deeply concerned at the fall in the numbers of Germans allowed to leave the Soviet Union for the European Community,
- B. Aware that a large number of exit applications from Germans in the Soviet Union are still outstanding and that persons wishing to leave are subjected to serious harrassment,
- C. Recalling the common responsibility of all Member States of the Community for the observance of human rights not least in the light of the Helsinki Final Act,
 1. Requests the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation to place the question of Germans in the USSR on the agenda for the forthcoming Madrid conference;
 2. Calls upon the governments of the Member States to use their influence in Moscow to the full to bring about a change in the Soviet attitude so that those wishing to leave may finally move to the country of their choice;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and to the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation and to the governments of the Member States.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION (DOCUMENT 1-769/82)

tabled by Mr SCHALL, Mr BROK, Mr KLEPSCH, Mr BLUMENFELD, Mr JANSSEN VAN RAAY, Mr HABSBURG, Mr D'ORMESSON and Mr GONTIKAS on behalf of the Group of the European People's Party (Christian-Democratic Group) pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure on the use of prison labour in the Soviet Union for the construction of a gas pipeline between the USSR and Western Europe
The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
 - B. having regard to the European Convention on Human Rights,
 - C. fearing that :
prison labour is being used in the Soviet Union for the construction of the gas pipeline which is to link the USSR with Western Europe, according to current information, some 100,000 prisoners, including 10,000 political detainees and a large number of women, are being used on this project and that this work is being done under inhuman conditions as regards the climate, accommodation, food and medical care,
 - D. having regard to the economic and political importance of the construction of this pipeline,
 - E. whereas human rights must under no circumstances be subjugated to economic or political considerations,
 - F. whereas the USSR has often used detainees to carry out major building projects in the past,
1. Calls on the Commission and the governments of the Member States concerned to verify the information circulating in Europe that prison labour is being used for the construction of the pipeline;
 2. Invites the Commission and the Council to report to it on this subject as soon as possible;
 3. Demands that the execution of the trade contracts relating to the construction of the pipeline be suspended until this matter has been clarified;
 4. Feels that these contracts should not be executed if the above information is found to be correct;
 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council and the governments of the ten Member States of the European Community.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION (DOCUMENT 1-917/82)

tabled by Mrs VAN HEMELDONCK, Mrs FUILLET and Mr SABY pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure on emigration problems for manual workers of the Jewish faith in the USSR

The European Parliament,

- A. mindful of the individual right of everyone, including the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country (Universal Declaration of Human Rights - Article 13(2))
- B. whereas no discussion of the attainment of the human rights and fundamental freedom enshrined in the VIIth principle of the Final Act of Helsinki or criticism of the non-application of such rights and freedom can constitute an interference in the internal affairs of the States concerned within the meaning of the VIIth principle,
- C. whereas members of the Jewish community in the USSR who request permission to emigrate are known to be subjected to repressive measures, outrages and tyrannical acts of all kinds,
- D. whereas the attention of the international community has up to now mainly focussed on the problems encountered by members of the Jewish community who are scientists, artists or writers,
- E. having been informed of the case of Mr SHKOLNIK, a manual worker of the Jewish faith, who after requesting permission to emigrate in June 1972 was arrested in July 1972 and sentenced to seven years imprisonment for "anti-soviet propaganda" and "spying to the benefit of a foreign power",
- F. noting that although Mr SHKOLNIK'S wife and daughter were granted an exit visa for Israel in January 1974 Mr SHKOLNIK has been repeatedly refused the same since the end of his prison sentence in June 1979,
 1. Declares that it considers the plight of manual workers belonging to the Jewish community of equal importance to that of the white collar workers;
 2. Calls on the USSR to take the necessary steps to secure that Mr Isaac SHKOLNIK will be allowed to emigrate as he is still being refused this basic right after a long period of imprisonment;
 3. Asks its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Parliaments of the Member States and the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION (DOCUMENT 1-1252/82)

tabled by Mrs VAN HEMELDONCK pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure on the imprisonment of Yuri Orlov

The European Parliament,

- A - having regard to its resolution 'on the conviction of the physicist Yuri Orlov, co-founder of the 'Public Group to assist the Fulfilment of the Helsinki Accords in the Soviet Union'*
 - B - having regard to the Final Act of the Helsinki Accords which in Article VII states that the 'participating States will respect human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief,... They confirm the right of the individual to know and to act upon his rights and duties in this field',
 - C - having regard to the fact that the physicist Yuri Orlov, chairman of the Moscow Helsinki Watch Group was, in 1977, convicted of 'anti-Soviet agitation' and sentenced to seven years in a strict regime labour camp followed by five years of internal exile for defending the principles laid down in the Helsinki Accords,
 - D - having regard to the fact that Yuri Orlov has since, because he tried to continue his scientific work within prison, been subjected to increasing duress and has often been placed in isolation for long periods of time,
1. Reaffirms that Article VII on 'Respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the freedom of thought, conscience, religion, or belief' is one of the key articles of the Helsinki Accords;
 2. Calls upon the Foreign Ministers of the Member States meeting in political cooperation to take all necessary steps to ensure that the Soviet Union liberates Yuri Orlov, immediately and unconditionally;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Foreign Ministers of the Member States meeting in political cooperation, the Council of Ministers, the Commission and the Governments and Parliaments of the Member States.

*OJ No. C 182, 31.7.78, p. 40