European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1984-1985

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr LINKOHR

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the restrictions imposed by the USA on the international transfer of technology and the damaging effects on industrial development in the European Community

The European Parliament,

- A. whereas since the end of the 1970s the USA has stepped up its controls on the transfer of technology, even to the countries of the European Community, by such means as secrecy regulations, export restrictions and clauses in public sector contracts,
- B. having regard to the findings of an unpublished study on the restrictions imposed on the international transfer of technology by the USA (carried out on behalf of the Federal German Ministry for Research and Technology),
- C. concerned at the growing nationalism surrounding technology, whereby the USA hopes to achieve economic and technical supremacy,
- D. whereas US export control laws are much more extensive than the equivalent laws in other countries, and also cover re-exports,
- E. fearing that, in the absence of a concerted approach, the European Community's technical dependence will lead to ever greater political dependence and make it vulnerable to blackmail,
- F. whereas US secrecy regulations seriously impede the exchange of scientific data and research results,
- Calls on the Council and Commission to bring all their influence to bear on the USA to secure the lifting of restrictions on the transfer of technology between the USA and the European Community;
- 2. Calls on the Commission to have proposals for countermeasures at the ready in the event of the restrictions being maintained;
- 3. Reaffirms its view that the level of advanced technology in Europe should be improved by greater cooperation within the framework of the Community research and industrial policy, particularly in the fields of data processing, automation, biotechnology, aeronautics and aerospace, new materials and telecommunications;
- Calls on the Commission to draw up a report on the current state of technology transfer between Western countries;
- 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission.