

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1983 - 1984

5 July 1983

DOCUMENT 1-553/83

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr VAN MIERT

for entry in the Register

pursuant to Rule 49 of the Rules of Procedure

on the persecution of Yosif BEGUN

in the Soviet Union

PE 85.812

The European Parliament,

- A. Whereas Yosif BEGUN (born 1932), an engineer and Soviet citizen, has been applying for an exit visa from the USSR since 1971,
 - B. Noting that in recent years he has been persecuted continually by the Soviet authorities and twice sentenced, to a total of 5 years exile, namely in 1977 for 'parasitism' and in 1978 for 'infringement of internal passport regulations',
 - C. Whereas these sentences were intended solely to prevent him from continuing his Jewish activities and to weaken his determination to emigrate,
 - D. Whereas the trials in question were conducted in an illegal manner since, among other things, his detention prior to trial was unlawful and the basic rights of the defence were not respected,
 - E. Whereas the Soviet authorities now want to sentence him for a third time, on this occasion for 'agitation and anti-Soviet propaganda',
 - F. Whereas, as a 'repeated offender' he is likely to receive an extremely harsh sentence bearing no relation to any charges that might be made against him,
 - G. Whereas Yosif BEGUN has again been held in custody since the end of 1982 and has been deprived of the right to read Jewish literature,
 - H. Whereas this is not an isolated case but several thousand Soviet citizens are being treated in a similar manner by the Soviet authorities,
1. Deplores the inhuman treatment to which Yosif BEGUN and many others like him are being subjected;
 2. Calls on the Soviet authorities to release Yosif BEGUN immediately and to stop any further persecution and victimization of him;

3. Urges the Soviet authorities after 12 years finally to grant him permission to emigrate from the USSR;
4. Calls upon them to demonstrate humanity and respect for fundamental human rights by doing the same in all other similar cases;
5. Requests the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation to do their utmost to ensure that Mr BEGUN is permitted to leave the Soviet Union without undue difficulties as soon as possible;
6. Urges them also to bring renewed and continuing pressure to bear on the Soviet authorities to show respect for individual human dignity and the values and personal convictions of all Soviet citizens;
7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation and to the Soviet authorities.

