

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr d'ORMESSON, Mr BARBI, Mr von HASSEL,
Mr SCHALL, Mr HABSBURG, Mr CROUX and
Mr DESCHAMPS

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 need to provide better civil defence for
the peoples of Europe

PE 79.463

The European Parliament,

- A. aware that in the years to come, the deterioration of the balance of military power between East and West, the spread of terrorism and international violence and the proliferation of nuclear weapons increase the risk factors facing the civilian populations of Europe,
- B. convinced that there can be no effective defence and no plausible means of deterrence unless there is popular support for the defence effort and the commitment to deterrence,
- C. disturbed by the almost total lack, in the countries of the European Community, of an operational civil defence organization which would be able to protect people, ensure the continuity of national life and thereby prevent the outbreak of panic, the blockage of lines of communication and, above all, the loss of human lives on a massive scale in the event of a conventional or nuclear conflict,
- D. whereas the current vulnerability of civilian populations is incompatible with a genuine strategy of deterrence which presupposes not only the existence of adequate military resources but also the will to use them in the event of an attack without this riposte resulting in the extermination of the peoples it is designed to protect,
- E. stressing the fact that the lack of a nationwide civil defence system would reduce populations to the status of hostages in any conflict,

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1. States that it would be dangerous and undemocratic for the conditions for the survival of the peoples of Europe to be kept from public debate;
2. Calls on the Member States to introduce civil defence programmes efficient enough to restore the credibility of their defence systems, which are based on deterrence;
3. Calls on the Member States to exchange information and to begin work on a coordinated plan to create a civil defence area at Community level;
4. Stresses the advisability of the standardization of civil defence equipment at Community level;
5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the governments of the Member States and to the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation.