

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

June 1982

DOCUMENT 1-400/82

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr MEGAHY, Mr SEAL, Mr CABORN, Mr BALFE,
Mr LOMAS and Mrs BUCHAN

for entry in the register
pursuant to Rule 49 of the Rules of Procedure

on the Luxembourg Agreement and British Membership of
the European Community

PE 79.495

The European Parliament,

- A. noting that the mandate of May 1981 required the Council of Ministers to find lasting solutions to the link of problems of the CAP and the excessive British contribution to the EEC budget,
- B. observing that following the first anniversary of the mandate decision there has been a total lack of progress,
- C. appalled at the total inability of the Council of Ministers to agree on a permanent solution to the excess British budgetary contribution,
- D. finding totally inadequate and unacceptable the estimated UK net contribution of approximately £500m this year which leaves the UK as the second major contributor despite being only the 7th richest nation in the Community,
- E. noting at times of severe economic cutback in Britain the number of houses, schools and hospitals this money could have paid for,
- F. noting that prior to Britain joining the Community, firm assurances were given that there would always be the right of veto as embodied in the Luxembourg compromise,
- G. condemning yet another massive round of food prices which inevitably hits the worse off members of society,
- H. noting that the manner in which these food price increases were forced on the UK demonstrates that the Council by its action has abandoned that part of the Luxembourg agreement which stated that matters of major importance to any Member State should only be reached by unanimous vote,
- I. affirming that such a right is fundamental to any state within the Community,
- J. noting with alarm statements which seem to indicate that the definition of any one Member State's national interest should rest with other Member States,
- K. finding this totally unacceptable,
- L. noting furthermore the statement by President Mitterrand which gave Britain two choices as to its future conduct in the EEC one of which was to quit,

- M. congratulating President Mitterrand on his shrewd and intelligent perception of the problem and reminding him that this is the policy adopted overwhelmingly by his fellow Socialists in Britain and supported by the vast majority of the British people,
- N. affirming that such withdrawal would be in the best interests of the UK and would put an end to the biggest source of discord between the UK and other Member States,

Resolves

1. That the Council of Ministers should immediately reaffirm the Luxembourg compromise;
2. That the Council of Ministers be called upon to immediately give serious consideration on the French President's proposals;
3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council of Ministers.