

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

12 September 1982

DOCUMENT 1-611/82

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr JUNOT

on behalf of the European Progressive Democrats

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the harmonization of traffic regulations

PE 80.511

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT,

- A - whereas the use of cars has become a basic feature of modern civilization and the rising standard of living,
 - B - having regard to the constant increase, regardless of economic difficulties, in the number of vehicles,
 - C - whereas public opinion would regard the harmonization of traffic rules in the Community as one of the most tangible signs of the existence of the European Community,
 - D - whereas the Treaty of Rome places an obligation on the EEC to devote more attention to transport questions, as was brought to the notice of the public by the debate at the European Parliament's September 1982 part-session,
 - E - having regard to the many serious traffic accidents involving heavy passenger and goods vehicles,
 - F - having regard to the Council directive of 4 December 1980 on the introduction of a Community driving licence (80/1263/EEC), which provides that the holder of a valid national driving licence issued by a Member State, may, as from 1 January 1983, if he becomes normally resident in another Member State, exchange his driving licence for a new licence issued by the State in which he then resides without having to pass another driving test,
 - G - whereas Directive 80/1263/EEC contains no provisions on the harmonization of traffic regulations in the Community and the minimum requirements for driving tests listed in Annex II to that directive make no reference to an awareness of the differences between the traffic rules in force in the various Member States,
1. Requests the Commission of the European Communities to draw up a proposal on the harmonization of traffic regulations in the Community with a view to improving road safety, and in particular to introduce the following provisions:

- uniform road signs,
 - improvement in the quality of road infrastructures as a basic safety element,
 - uniform speed limits, differentiated according to type of vehicle, with low speed limits on ordinary roads, in particular in built-up areas, and recommended speed limits on motorways, as in the Federal Republic of Germany,
 - severe penalties for driving offences, especially drunken driving,
 - regular health checks for drivers and technical checks on the state of vehicles, especially lorries and buses,
 - compulsory wearing of seat-belts at least outside built-up areas;
2. Requests the Commission, when harmonizing traffic regulations, to consult any analyses of the causes of traffic accidents that may be available in the various Member States;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and to the Commission.

