

European Communities

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr KALLIAS

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on closer contact between the European Parliament  
and the younger generation of Europeans

The European Parliament,

whereas,

- A. the gap between the generations - which is developing into a conflict - is a serious problem of our times,
- B. the principal duty of the generation now responsible for decision-making is to bridge the gap with the younger generation, to encourage it and to prepare its future,
- C. there is less contact with young people, quite apart from social, philosophical and political positions, than there should be,
- D. in bridging this gap, account should be taken of two principles, namely, (a) that young people should be entitled to make the choices which concern them and should assume responsibility for these choices, and (b) that in the interests of young people the knowledge and experience of older generations should be used and welcomed,
- E. if it is to be acceptable, this experience should be offered in such a way that it does not provoke opposition, even if such opposition is unjustified. A dialogue marked by mutual cordiality and ideological tolerance must be instituted between the generations: the established generation must not adopt an imperious tone towards the younger generation, but show respect, trust and affection, while young people should abandon their prejudices and mental resistance,
- F. the younger generation should in any case be imbued with the ideal of freedom, which dignifies man, regardless of social and political beliefs,
- G. the pursuit of European Union is a very important political goal and the peoples of Europe - and especially the younger generation - must be won over if this is to be achieved,

- H. one way of establishing cordial contact with the younger generation of Europeans would be to communicate directly with it with the aim of achieving closer mutual understanding. The European Parliament could, for instance, draw up and distribute a memorandum to start a dialogue with young men and women, a memorandum political and humanitarian in content, but non-partisan and addressed to all the younger generation without distinction,
- I. the European Parliament, elected by Europeans of all classes and age-groups and being the most appropriate and - in the eyes of young people - most credible institution for communicating with the younger generation, can and must perform this role;
1. Calls on the committee responsible to draw up a report on the most suitable means of bridging the gap with the younger generation of Europeans;
  2. Calls on the same committee to draw up a draft memorandum on behalf of the European Parliament addressed to young Europeans to establish direct and cordial contact between Parliament as a whole and all young Europeans as a generation;
  3. While recognizing the great interest shown so far by all EEC institutions, and especially by Parliament, which has repeatedly adopted resolutions on the problems of youth unemployment, calls on the Council of Ministers and the Commission of the European Communities to give their special and unremitting attention to the problems of young people and notably to youth unemployment, which fills young people with bitterness and instills in them a dangerous feeling of disillusionment when they arrive at the threshold of an independent economic existence;