

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

DELEGATION FROM THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

for relations with

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND

WORKING DOCUMENT

on

EAST-WEST RELATIONS AND THE ATTITUDE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

(Prepared by the Directorate General for Research and Documentation)

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PE 71.641

EAST-WEST RELATIONS AND THE ATTITUDE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1. Since direct elections in June 1979 the European Parliament has had the duty of interpreting and expressing the opinion of the people of the European Community on a series of international crises. As regards the Near East, Parliament has not yet pronounced on the 'European initiative' embarked upon after the European Council meeting in Venice in June 1980; but in all other cases Parliament has expressed its view clearly and expeditiously.

AFGHANISTAN

2. The USSR invaded Afghanistan on 26 December 1979. At its session only three weeks later the European Parliament - in advance of any statement published by the Foreign Ministers of the Nine - adopted a resolution on the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan (Annex 1).

3. In this resolution, Parliament -

- a) called for the immediate withdrawal of all Soviet troops in order to enable the Afghans to set up their own form of government;
- b) affirmed that the principles of détente are indivisible and not limited to certain regions and should be applied everywhere;
- c) condemned the brutal invasion by the USSR, which had restricted the development of détente;
- d) invited the European Commission to review economic, commercial, financial, etc. relations with the USSR;
- e) called upon the International Olympic Committee, the national Olympic Committees and the athletes participating in the Moscow Olympic Games to reconsider whether the Games should be held in Moscow if the occupation of Afghanistan were to continue.

4. Parliament thus dealt with this matter from both the economic and political aspects, and broached the question of the Olympic Games. On the other hand, despite lengthy discussions, the Governments of the Nine were too divided to agree on any statement linking the Moscow Games with the invasion of Afghanistan. One month later, Parliament took the field again, calling upon the Commission to impose an embargo on all sales of subsidised agricultural surpluses to the USSR (Annex 2), and threatening to use all its powers against the Commission unless the latter implemented its resolution of January. Parliament also backed up its policy on the Olympic Games by urging the Nine Governments to advise national Olympic Committees not to take part in the Moscow Games.

IRAN

5. Once again, Parliament reacted rapidly to a sudden international crisis by adopting a clear, firm resolution, only two weeks after the seizure of the hostages in November 1979; the resolution condemned the seizure and the occupation of the US Embassy in Teheran (Annex 3).

6. After the failure of the UN Mission to Teheran in March 1980, Parliament adopted a second resolution on the fate of the US hostages (Annex 4). The resolution invoked the judgement of the International Court of Justice at The Hague insisting that Iran should respect the rules of diplomatic immunity. The resolution went on to deplore the behaviour of the Iranian authorities in violating human rights, and asked the governments of the Nine to intervene to secure the release of the hostages.

7. In a further resolution (Annex 5) in April 1980 Parliament approved the application of economic sanctions against Iran; four weeks later the Foreign Ministers of the Nine adopted limited economic sanctions against Iran.

IRAN-IRAK CONFLICT

8. Parliament has to date adopted a cautious and limited resolution only (Annex 6) on this matter. This called on the super-powers and other countries in the region to refrain from any intervention in the conflict, and especially from supplying arms to the warring parties. The resolution further called on the Community states to offer their good offices in the interest of a peaceful settlement, which proposal was acted on by the Community Foreign Ministers.

NEAR EAST

9. The European Parliament's and European Community's views on the situation in the Near East is explained more fully in the companion working document PE 71.628.

CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE (CSCE)

10. Having followed closely the evolution of the CSCE since the signature of the Final Act at Helsinki in 1975, the Political Committee of Parliament made lengthy preparations before asking Parliament to adopt a position on the Madrid meeting on implementation of the Final Act. The Committee held a public meeting in June 1980, at which nine experts, including a former Dutch Foreign Minister and Mr Vladimir Bukovsky, the Russian activist on human rights issues, provided information to the Committee.

11. The resolution adopted by Parliament in October 1980 is too long to be described in detail (Annex 7), but its basic principles and certain new proposals should be mentioned here. Parliament reaffirmed its view, expressed in January in the Afghanistan resolution, that détente is indivisible and has both regional and global applications, and insisted that 'the unitary character of the Final Act requires all the principles and provisions contained in it to be applied without exception'.

12. On new proposals, Parliament asked the Nine Governments to take two new steps to further the ongoing 'Helsinki process'. These were, to -

- a) '4. Propose, at the Madrid Conference, that a procedure be laid down to enable the hearing of certain non-governmental organisations that have dedicated themselves to "monitoring the implementation of the Helsinki Final Act".'
- '5. Consider proposing that, between the meetings provided for under the procedures laid down in Helsinki, a committee be convened with the specific task of evaluating the progress made in the field of human rights by each signatory State to the Final Act.'

At a meeting with the Political Affairs Committee in November, Mr Thorn, then Chairman-in-Office of the Foreign Ministers, undertook for the first time that their resolution would be brought positively to the attention of the Ministers.

13. Discussions at Madrid on implementation of the Final Act in the previous two years ended before Christmas, and the meeting is now discussing new proposals for East-West cooperation within the CSCE framework. As always in the last five years, the Nine (now the Ten) have maintained a united front, have collaborated closely with the USA and Canada, and have increasingly won the support of the neutral and non-aligned nations, such as the Scandinavians, Yugoslavia and Austria. The new proposals under discussion at present are the French proposal for a disarmament conference and a similar counter-proposal by Poland on behalf of the Eastern bloc.

HUMAN RIGHTS

14. In resolutions adopted, respectively, in April and September 1980, Parliament expressed its views on human rights in Czechoslovakia and Poland. The former resolution was preceded by two limited resolutions of July and October 1979 protesting against the arrests of dissidents in Czechoslovakia.¹ In its general resolution of April 1980 (Annex 8), Parliament considered that the arrests and sentencing of dissidents in Czechoslovakia constituted a violation of the Final Act, and called upon the Foreign Ministers to make every effort to ensure that the Final Act should be observed in Czechoslovakia. In its resolution on human rights in Poland (Annex 9), Parliament welcomed the manner in which Polish workers were asserting their rights, considered that the right to strike and to establish free trade unions were fundamental rights in themselves, and requested the Commission and Council to improve economic cooperation with Poland.

¹ OJ C 203/37 of 13.8.79 and OJ C 289/57 of 19.11.79

CONCLUSION

15. The European Parliament has thus, by its moderate and timely resolutions on various aspects of East-West relations, given ample and clear expression to the opinion of the people of the Community on these matters, which are of such crucial importance to them. As the political influence of the Parliament increases, so also will the pressure increase upon the Commission, Council and Foreign Ministers to take full account of the attitude of Parliament as expressed in its resolutions.

RESOLUTION

on the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan

The European Parliament,

— outraged by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, and profoundly concerned about the threat to international peace,

1. Condemns the armed intervention in Afghanistan which is contrary to the provisions of the UN Charter;
2. Calls for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all Soviet troops from Afghanistan in order to enable its people to determine their own form of government;
3. Emphasises the responsibility of the USSR for the grave consequences of its action on the policy of détente and affirms that the principles of détente are neither divisible nor limited to certain geographical regions and confirms the urgent need to ensure that they are applied everywhere;
4. Reaffirms its desire for détente and deplores the brutal intervention of the USSR which diminishes its future development;
5. Requests the Commission to review immediately all economic, commercial, credit and financial relations between the USSR and the European Community, specifically in the field of high technology, agricultural products, and anti-dumping practices and to report to the Council;
6. Calls upon the Council and the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation to take effective measures in the light of the Commission's report in support of efforts to end the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan;
7. Welcomes the decision provisionally to suspend food aid for Afghanistan, and calls on the Commission to give full support to the programme of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to supply food and medical aid to the Afghan refugees who have fled into neighbouring States;
8. Urges member governments to act in cooperation with all governments who condemn this flagrant act of aggression against an independent sovereign State;
9. Calls upon the International Olympic Committee as well as national committees of Member States and the federations of the national athletic associations taking part in the Olympic Games with the representatives of participating athletes to reconsider whether the summer games should take place in Moscow if the occupation of Afghanistan continues;
10. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the UN Secretary-General, to the parliaments and Governments of the Member States of the Community and to the Commission and the Council with a request for the latter to report to the European Parliament.

OJ C 59/56 of 10.3.1980

RESOLUTION

on the measures to be taken by the European Economic Community following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and on the outrageous treatment of Professor Sakharov

The European Parliament,

- recalling its resolution of 16 January 1980 calling for an immediate review of economic and other relations with Russia, specifically in the fields of agriculture and technology ⁽¹⁾,
 - concerned at the lack of action by the Commission in regard to trade with Russia since the adoption of this resolution,
 - disturbed at the lack of a firm unequivocal statement by the President of the Commission to the Political Affairs Committee on 31 January 1980 on the question of the sales of surplus commodities to Russia,
 - aware of the outrage expressed by the people of Europe over the continuing sales of surplus commodities to Russia with the benefit of subsidies provided by the European taxpayer,
1. Calls on the Commission to impose an immediate embargo on all sales of surplus commodities to Russia involving subsidies;
 2. Warns the Commission that the Parliament as Joint Budgetary Authority may use its powers and decline retrospectively to sanction the expenditure of monies for this purpose;
 3. Reminds the Commission of the Parliament's other powers to express its disapproval of such sales;
 4. Requests the Council urgently to ensure that the Commission complies with Parliament's resolution and further to ensure that the Joint Budgetary Authority approves any policies relating to the disposal of all surplus commodities before the same are implemented;
 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission.

¹ OJ No. C 34, 11.2.1980, page 28.

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES
OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE SITTING OF
16 NOVEMBER 1979

RESOLUTION

on the seizure of hostages and the occupation of the United States Embassy in Teheran

The European Parliament,

- considering the seizure of hostages as utterly inadmissible, since it is patently contrary to elementary humanitarian principles and respect for the most fundamental rights of the human individual,
 - whereas respect for the inviolability of diplomatic missions constitutes one of the most imperative obligations under the law of nations, and whereas without such respect there can be no security or progress in international relations,
 - whereas the Iranian State has an obligation to respect Articles 22 and 29 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations which it ratified on 3 February 1965, relating to diplomatic personnel and premises,
 - having on many occasions manifested its solidarity with the Iranian people in the cause of defending human rights in Iran,
1. Solemnly condemns this exceptionally serious violation of humanitarian principles as well as international law and the Iranian authorities condoning thereof;
 2. Urges the Iranian authorities to bring to an end without delay the seizure of hostages and the occupation of the United States Embassy in Teheran;
 3. Condemns the deliberate encouragement of blackmail and violence *vis-à-vis* a diplomatic mission;
 4. Expresses its solidarity with all those who are opposed to this seizure of hostages;
 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the Ambassadors of Iran accredited to the Nine and to the Government of the United States of America.

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES
OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE SITTING OF
14 MARCH 1980

RESOLUTION

on the position of the hostages in Iran following the failure of the UN mission

The European Parliament,

- still seriously concerned by the fate of the hostages held in the United States Embassy in Teheran,
 - aware of the failure of the UN commission of enquiry into the actions of the Shah of Iran before his departure from that country,
 - regretting the fact that the commission of enquiry was not able to complete successfully a mission that would have provided definite information with a view to any legal action against the Shah,
 - aware of the mental torture endured by the hostages,
 - recalling the unanimous position adopted by the International Court of Justice requiring Iran to respect the rule of diplomatic immunity,
1. Condemns the behaviour of the competent Iranian authorities which constitutes a flagrant violation of universally defined human rights;
 2. Supports the UN in its action and urges it to persevere;
 3. Calls on the Member States of the Community party to the 1961 Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations, by virtue of Article 63 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice at The Hague, to take up before that court the present case concerning the hostages;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council and the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation.

OJ C 117/38 of 12.5.1980

RESOLUTION

on the plight of the Americans held captive in Tehran

The European Parliament,

- recalling its resolutions of 16 November 1979 and 14 March 1980 requiring the Iranian authorities to effect immediately the release of the hostages held in the Embassy of the United States of America in Tehran¹;
 - further recalling the resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations requesting the imposition of economic sanctions on Iran if the hostages continue to be held captive;
 - welcoming the statement of the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation on 10 April 1980 in Lisbon;
 - recognizing the danger that prolonged violation of international treaty obligations can lead to the use of force in the pursuit of just objectives;
 - anxious that traditional friendly relations between Iran and the countries of the European Community be restored as soon as possible;
 - expressing its deep sympathy with the hostages and with their families in the United States of America;
1. Renews its condemnation of the Iranian authorities for permitting the illegal detention of diplomatic personnel;
 2. Calls again, therefore, on the Iranian authorities to contrive the speedy release of those hostages, giving a specific date for this release;
 3. Urges the Nine:
 - to take all necessary and practicable steps, acting in full consultation with the United States of America and other members of the Atlantic Alliance, to oblige the Iranian authorities to release the hostages;
 - to formulate a common policy in this regard and with due consideration for the critical political conditions in the region, so that they can act in concert;
 - to contemplate, in the event of the hostages not being released, the suspension of diplomatic relations between Iran and the Member States of the Community;
 4. Expresses, in countering this grave threat to peace and to the rule of international law, its support for the United States of America as the principal victim, at present, of this outrageous breach of the normal conduct of peaceful relations between States;
 5. Instructs its Presidency to forward this resolution to the European Council, to the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation, to the Council and Commission, to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and to the Ambassadors of Iran to the capitals of the Nine.

¹ OJ No. C 309, 10.12.1979, p. 61 and OJ No. C 85, 8.4.1980, p. 97

RESOLUTION

on the conflict between Iran and Iraq

The European Parliament,

- conscious of the extreme gravity of the conflict between Iran and Iraq which brings into question the future of the two countries, the well-being of their peoples and the stability of the region,
 - equally conscious that this conflict, limited though it may appear, runs the risk of deeply affecting Europe and other countries;
1. Reaffirms its commitment to the principle of negotiation for settling all international disputes;
 2. Demands that the super-powers and the other countries in the region refrain immediately from all intervention, military or otherwise, especially the supply of arms to the belligerent parties;
 3. Proposes that the Member States of the European Community make available their good offices in order to re-established peace;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation and the Governments of the Member States.

OJ C 291/24 of 10.11.80 RESOLUTION

on the meeting to be held in Madrid in November 1980, as provided for in the Concluding Document of the Belgrade Meeting, within the framework of the follow-up to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe

The European Parliament,

- whereas the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, formally signed in Helsinki on 1 August 1975, by initiating a complex multilateral process signified the start of a new phase in the policy of cooperation and détente,
- whereas this multilateral process was continued in the Belgrade Meeting held from 4 October 1977 to 9 March, 1978, and which, although its results were admittedly limited, is to be followed up in November 1980 in Madrid,
- whereas the Meetings of Experts during the period from July 1978 to March 1980 helped to further this process,
- having regard to the progress, however modest, achieved in some sectors following the signing of the Helsinki Final Act,
- welcoming any further initiative towards international détente and cooperation between all the states of Europe and North America,
- welcoming the political alignment shown by the nine Governments of the European Community at all stages of the CSCE negotiations, an alignment which found expression in the definition of common approaches and positions on the most important subjects of the negotiations,
- drawing attention to the public hearing held by the Political Affairs Committee in Brussels on 23 and 24 June 1980 on the forthcoming meeting in Madrid,
- drawing attention to its five previous resolutions of principle ⁽¹⁾,
- having regard to the report of the Political Affairs Committee (Doc. 1-445/80),

1. Expresses the conviction that :

- détente, which is indivisible and at the same time regional and global in character, can only be pursued successfully when equal efforts are made by all participating States towards the implementation of the Helsinki Agreement;
- there is a close correlation between peace and security within Europe and outside Europe, as expressly confirmed in the Final Act, particularly in its second principle;
- the present state of tension in international relations gives rise to deep concern and demands measures capable of bringing about a solution to the crisis triggered by Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and by the aggravation or prolongation of the crises in the Middle East, in South East Asia and in southern Africa;
- the unitary character of the Final Act requires all the principles and provisions contained in it to be applied without exception ;
- in consequence, the only realistic basis for détente is a balance in the military strength of the parties, as this balance is a precondition for concerted action by East and West towards a mutual and balanced reduction in the armed forces and armament systems in Europe and outside Europe;
- the 35 signatory countries must therefore do their utmost to stop the arms race;
- respect for human rights and fundamental liberties by all States is one of the bases for a profound, material improvement in their mutual relations and in international cooperation at all levels, that is, not only between States but also between individuals, as was explicitly recognized, thanks to the firm and united stance of the Western countries, in the Concluding Report of the Scientific Forum in Hamburg of March 1980;

(¹) OJ No C 95, 28. 4. 1975, p. 28; OJ No C 133, 6. 6. 1977, p. 30; OJ No C 133, 6. 6. 1977, p. 32; OJ No C 36, 13. 3. 1978, p. 26; OJ No C 131, 5. 6. 1978, p. 47.

- true respect for these rights is incompatible with the alarming increase in the exercise of ideological control over individuals by some East European countries, in particular the Soviet Union, proof of which is furnished by:
 - (a) the repressive measures adopted against those who call for human rights and fundamental liberties to be respected;
 - (b) the treatment of individuals and groups who seek proper enforcement of the principles and provisions of the Final Act; the Sacharov case, which is the episode best known to the international public at large, is only the most recent of these;
 - (c) the very many cases of infringements of human rights and fundamental liberties, even though these differ in scale and degree, recorded extensively in the East European countries;
 - (d) the jamming of outside broadcasts to the Soviet Union during the recent events in Poland;
- it is sophistry to claim that all reports of infringements of the principles of human rights are 'intervention in internal affairs': neither the text itself nor a proper interpretation of the text of the VIth Principle of the Final Act form a basis for any such claim; rather, it must be reaffirmed that there is no contradiction between Principles VI and VII of the Final Act and that all participating States have a duty to investigate abuses of human rights so as to reaffirm their commitment to the successful pursuit of détente;
- it is the inalienable right of each of the signatory States to the Final Act to require its co-signatories to respect the undertakings given in the Final Act,
- it is, at all events, vital that every one of the 35 signatory States of the ECSC should act in such a way as to allow the restoration of a climate of trust, which is indispensable if concrete results are to be achieved at the Madrid Meeting.

2. Therefore requests that the Governments of the nine Member States and the Commission should:

1. Make every effort to further the CSCE process, in line with the desire stated in the Concluding Document of the Belgrade meeting in which all the participating States 'stressed the political importance of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and reaffirmed the resolve of their Governments, to implement fully, unilaterally, bilaterally and multilaterally, all the provisions of the Final Act';
2. Ensure that the agenda of the Madrid Conference permits a full review of the progress of events since Belgrade, including the harassment of those groups who are dedicated to monitoring the implementation of the Final Act;
3. Ensure that, in the developments which it is hoped will ensue, a balance is maintained between all the elements contained in the Final Act;
4. Propose, at the Madrid Conference, that a procedure be laid down to enable the hearing of certain non-governmental organizations that have dedicated themselves to 'monitoring the implementation of the Helsinki Final Act';
5. Consider proposing that, between the meetings provided for under the procedures laid down in Helsinki, a committee be convened with the specific task of evaluating the progress made in the field of human rights by each signatory State to the Final Act;

in respect of the declaration on the principles governing relations between participating States :

6. State the absolute necessity for all the participating States to maintain strict respect for all the 'Principles' contained in the Final Act, both in their relations with one another and in their relations with all other States;
7. Condemn as unacceptable and contrary to the Helsinki Final Act any recourse to the threat or the use of force and declare solemnly that the violation of the national sovereignty of a signatory State to the Helsinki Final Act by another State — under whatever pretext — would be considered as a flagrant violation of the spirit of this Act and would therefore represent a danger to peace;
8. Stress the extreme importance of the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental liberties, including freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, for the development, while protecting the individual, of all societies and States, and for maintaining and promoting peace between nations;
9. In this context, make it unequivocally clear that a definite commitment by the participating States to the respect for human rights and fundamental liberties is not only an essential aspect of détente but is indispensable if the CSCE process is to be continued to good purpose;

as regards military security and confidence-building measures:

10. Continue to proceed in conformity with the guidelines contained in the statements published following the meeting of the EEC Foreign Ministers of 20 November 1979;
11. Develop further precise and detailed confidence-building measures by taking significant steps at a military level which can be monitored and are applicable to the whole continent of Europe;
12. Consider constructively all the proposals for a conference on disarmament in Europe and seek, if possible, to coordinate them;

as regards economic questions:

13. Continue, on the basis of a concerted Community policy, to make genuine and practical improvements as regards the numerous administrative and technical provisions of the Second Basket, especially in respect of exchanges of economic and commercial information and the facilitation of business contacts;
14. Examine whether the policy of security and cooperation may through common action be widened into a coordinated policy of protection and preservation of the natural environment;
15. Stress, in this context, the need for new agreements between the participating States to help businessmen, especially those running small and medium-sized undertakings, to pursue their economic and commercial activities, taking into account the differences between the various economic systems;
16. Reaffirm the interest in the development of cooperation and in the study of suitable projects, particularly in the energy field;
17. Adopt the measures necessary to ensure that:
 - the benefits deriving from economic cooperation between the signatory States of the CSCE are mutual and balanced;

— particular attention is given to the question of the coordination of the credit policies of the Nine and the amount of Western credits intended to facilitate imports by the East European countries, and to the solution of the problems created by the practice of dumping by these countries on Community markets, and by the imposition of linked trade arrangements;

18. Raise their aid to the developing countries as rapidly as possible to the target of 0.7 % of GNP fixed by the UN;
19. Invite the East European countries also to make a significant increase in their aid to the developing countries so that the industrialized countries at last share equitably the responsibility for the development of these countries;
20. Do everything to ensure that the Commission participate and that the role of the European Parliament be taken into account in all negotiations on matters for which responsibility has been transferred by the Member States to the Community;

in respect of questions relating to security and cooperation in the Mediterranean:

21. Point out that the signatory States to the Final Act have recognized both the close connection between security in Europe and security in the Mediterranean area and the importance of their economic relations with the other Mediterranean States which did not sign the Final Act, and therefore their common interest in developing further cooperation;
22. Continue, in consequence, to urge all 35 signatory States to abide consistently by the undertakings given in respect of the Mediterranean area, in the light of what is said in the Belgrade Concluding Document and taking into account the results of the Meeting of Experts at Valletta;

in respect of cooperation in humanitarian fields:

23. Stress that the credibility of the whole CSCE process will in particular be judged on the basis of the progress made by all the participating States in implementing more fully in this fundamentally important area the relevant provisions of the Final Act;
24. Continue to emphasize that the provisions in the Third Basket of the Final Act which commit the signatory States to guarantee the right of free movement of persons in every sense of the term, free access to information of all kinds, the improvement and extension of cooperation and exchanges in the field of culture and education as expressly provided for by the Final Act are fundamental for understanding between nations and therefore for the strengthening of peace;
25. Support in the same spirit all moves to promote contacts between young people in all European countries;
26. Attempt, as part of an endeavour to bring about a genuine improvement in the working conditions of journalists, to put an immediate end to the restrictions recently imposed on journalists by certain Eastern European Countries;

in respect of the follow-up to the Conference:

27. Declare themselves in favour of continuing the CSCE process;
 28. Take the most appropriate measures as regards organizational forms and levels in order to ensure that genuine progress is made in the follow-up to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, particularly as regards armaments control and disarmament; request the Council to submit a report to the European Parliament at the beginning of 1981 on the state of progress of the Madrid Meeting;
3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation, the Council and the Commission.

RESOLUTION

on the respect for human rights in Czechoslovakia

The European Parliament,

- recalling the Joint Declaration by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on the protection of human rights ⁽¹⁾,
- recalling its resolutions on respect for human rights in the world,
- recalling its resolutions of 9 April 1975, 11 May 1977 and 10 May 1978 on the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe ⁽²⁾,
- recalling its resolution of 11 May 1979 on the trial of Mr J. Sabata ⁽³⁾,
- recalling its resolution of 20 July 1979 on the arrest of dissidents in Czechoslovakia ⁽⁴⁾,
- recalling its resolution of 26 October 1979 on the arrest of six Czechoslovakian citizens ⁽⁵⁾,
- having regard to the motion for a resolution on political prisoners in Czechoslovakia tabled by Mr Glinne and Mr Pelikan on behalf of the Socialist Group (Doc. 1-230/79),
- having regard to the report of the Political Affairs Committee (Doc. 1-815/79),

1. Considers that the arrest and sentencing of individuals who seek to uphold human rights in Czechoslovakia constitute a violation of the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference;
2. Expresses its respect for the courage evidenced by all those who try to protect basic freedoms in Czechoslovakia;
3. Is of the opinion that such violations of undertakings recorded in the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference are likely to jeopardize the policy of détente which it wishes to see continued;
4. Insists that any trials should be run according to procedures which afford the defendants every possible guarantee and should be held in public and that, in particular, observers from independent human rights organizations should be able to attend them;
5. Requests the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation:
 - (a) to continue their efforts to ensure that the provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe are observed so as to put an end to violations of human rights in Czechoslovakia;
 - (b) to make it plain to the Czechoslovakian authorities that violations of the Final Act of Helsinki threaten the success of the forthcoming Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe which is to be held in Madrid;
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Foreign Ministers of the Member States meeting in political cooperation, asking them to report to the European Parliament, the Council and Commission and the action they have taken, and also to the Parliaments and Governments of the Member States.

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 103, 27. 4. 1977, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ No C 95, 28. 4. 1975, p. 28; OJ No C 133, 6. 6. 1977, p. 32; OJ No C 131, 5. 6. 1978, p. 47.

⁽³⁾ OJ No C 140, 5. 6. 1979, p. 152.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ No C 203, 13. 8. 1979, p. 37.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ No C 289, 19. 11. 1979, p. 57.

RESOLUTION

on human rights in Poland

The European Parliament,

- having regard to recent developments in the People's Republic of Poland,
 - referring to the Final Act of Helsinki on security and cooperation in Europe, which is to be followed up at the forthcoming Conference in Madrid, particularly with regard to human rights,
 - mindful of the efforts of the Polish people throughout their history and in recent times to shape their independence, often in difficult situations,
 - recognizing that Poland has over the last twenty years played an important part in establishing and encouraging détente in Europe and that this must be pursued;
1. Welcomes the manner in which the Polish workers, supported by forces giving expression to social pluralism, have asserted their rights and congratulates them on the results they have obtained over the full range of their demands;
 2. Emphasizes in this regard that the right to strike, the right to establish free trade unions and non-discrimination at work are a part of fundamental rights;
 3. Considers that freedom of communication and of information is also essential;
 4. Welcomes the fact that a solution has been sought without recourse to any violence;
 5. Notes that only the Polish people has the right to decide the future of Poland;
 6. Requests the Commission and the Governments of the Nine to improve economic and financial cooperation with Poland;
 7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Governments of the nine Member States, to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs meeting in political cooperation, to the President of the Economic and Social Committee of the EEC and the Polish Ambassadors in the capitals of the nine Member States.

