
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1978 - 1979

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RECOMMENDATION

of the EEC-GREECE Joint Parliamentary Committee

adopted in Paris

on 25 November 1978

1.2.2.

Paris, 24 November 1978

Mr Emilio COLOMBO
President of the European Parliament
Schuman Building
LUXEMBOURG

Dear Mr President,

Please find attached the recommendation adopted by the EEC-Greece Joint Parliamentary Committee at the close of its XVth session held in Paris from 23 to 25 November 1978.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd) Paul L. DE CLERCQ
Chairman

(sgd) Jean PESMAZOGLOU
Co-Chairman

Annex

XVth SESSION

23 to 25 November 1978

PARIS

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

The EEC-Greece Joint Parliamentary Committee held its XVth session in Paris from 23 to 25 November 1978 under the chairmanship of Mr Paul DE CLERCQ, Chairman of the European Parliament delegation, and Mr Jean PESMAZOGLOU, Chairman of the Greek Parliament delegation.

The session was attended by Mr Klaus von DOHNANYI, President-in-Office of the Association Council and of the Council of the European Communities and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, Mr Georges KONTOGEORGIS, Minister without portfolio in the Greek Government responsible for relations with the European Community, and Mr Lorenzo NATALI, Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities.

During the XVth session an information meeting was held with representatives of economic and social circles in Greece and the Community.

At the close of its deliberations, the Joint Parliamentary Committee adopted the following recommendation :

RECOMMENDATION

The Joint Parliamentary Committee,

- having heard the President of the Association Council, who presented an oral report on the activities of the past year, the representatives of the Greek Government and those of the Council and Commission of the European Communities,
- having held an information meeting with representatives of economic and social circles in the Community and Greece at which the question of freedom of establishment for the professions was discussed with accession especially in mind,
- having discussed the application of the Association Agreement and the progress of the negotiations for Greece's accession to the Community, and having examined international political questions of common interest, particularly those relating to the situation in the eastern Mediterranean,

State of the Association

1. Notes that the development of relations between Greece and the Community has not yet led to the achievement of all the objectives of the Association Agreement, and that Greece's trade deficit with the Community does not appear to have diminished in 1978 ;
2. Notes with concern, while recognizing the difficulties that exist in the textile sectors of the Community, that the general limits applied by the EEC to Community imports of textile products have seriously affected a Greek sector of vital economic and social importance ;
3. Urges the Community authorities to reconsider their own position for 1979 with a view to lifting these restrictions which, in spite of the Association Agreement, penalize, on the eve of accession, a sector which could help to reduce Greece's trade deficit with the Community ;
4. Notes with surprise and deep regret that, despite the signing on 28 February 1977 of the Second Financial Protocol, delays in the Community's internal procedures have so far deprived the Greek economy of the funds provided for under the Association Agreement, and invites the Community authorities to make up for this delay and its effects ;

Accession negotiations

5. Reaffirms its conviction that Greek accession, by bringing the peoples of the Community and Greece closer together, will help to strengthen democracy and consolidate peace and social progress in Europe ;
6. Repeats its view that Greek accession should strengthen relations between Greece and the European Community in all fields and must in no circumstances lead to a reduction, during the transitional period, of the guarantees and advantages resulting from the Athens Agreement ;
7. Stresses that these negotiations are unique by reason of the Association between Greece and the EEC that has existed since 1962, and that whatever has been achieved under the Association must therefore be taken into consideration in the Accession Treaty for the transitional period ;
8. Emphasizes that the Association Agreement makes constant reference to the underlying principles of the Treaty of Rome, and that no departure therefrom can be proposed or justified during the accession negotiations;
9. Considers that the transitional period of a maximum of five years demanded by Greece is sufficient for the adaptations necessary in certain sectors ;
10. Hopes, therefore, that in fixing the transitional periods the greatest regard will be paid to the time which Greece considers necessary for its adaptation in each sector ;
11. Sincerely hopes that the fundamental principles of the Treaty of Rome concerning the free movement of workers will be fully upheld during the accession negotiations ;
12. Notes with satisfaction that the timetable fixed by the Council and Commission for Greek accession has been applied so far, and that it should enable the bulk of the negotiations to be completed by the end of 1978 and the Treaty to be signed in the first half of 1979 ;
13. Emphasizes that the transitional provisions which will be contained in the Accession Treaty should be aimed principally at helping Greece to adapt itself to the Community rules ;

14. Sincerely hopes that early Greek accession will enable the Greek people as soon as possible to elect its representatives to the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage ;

15. Instructs its President to forward this recommendation to the Association Council, the Greek Parliament and the European Parliament, the Government of the Greek Republic and the Council and Commission of the European Community.