

European Communities

423.02

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1977 - 1978

9 February 1978

DOCUMENT 537/77

Report

drawn up on behalf of the Political Affairs Committee

on the ~~date~~ of direct elections to the European Parliament

Rapporteur: Mr S. PATIJN

1. 2. 1

PE 52.192/fin.

In accordance with the instructions given by the European Parliament on 14 January 1975 when it adopted the resolution on the draft Convention introducing elections to the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage, the Political Affairs Committee decided at its meeting of 2/3 February 1978 to submit a report on the date of direct elections to the European Parliament and confirmed the appointment of Mr Patijn as rapporteur.

At the same meeting it adopted the motion for a resolution by 15 votes to one.

Present: Mr Bertrand, chairman; Mr Brugha, vice-chairman; Mr Patijn, rapporteur; Mr Amadei, Mr Amendola, Mr Berkhouwer, Lord Brimelow, Mr Durieux, Mr Fletcher-Cooke, Mr Holst, Mr Klepsch, Mr McDonald, Lord Reay, Mr Rippon, Mr Seefeld and Mr Vergeer.

The rapporteur will give the explanatory statement orally in plenary sitting.

The Political Affairs Committee hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on the date of direct elections to the European Parliament

The European Parliament,

- conscious of the expectations of the peoples of the European Community that direct elections to the European Parliament will be held at an early date,
 - having regard to the 1978 elections date indicated in the Final Communiqué of the 1974 Paris summit and confirmed in the Council Decision of 20 September 1976,
 - having regard to the stage reached by the Member States in ratifying the Act of 20 September 1976 on elections to the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage,
 - having regard to the stage reached in preparing the national provisions for the implementation of this Act,
 - having regard to Art. 10 of the Act of 20 September 1976, which stipulates that the Council of the European Communities shall fix the date of the elections,
 - having regard to the Report of the Political Affairs Committee (Doc.537/77),
1. Regrets that the Council of the European Communities has not met its earlier undertaking to fix the date of the first direct elections to the European Parliament for May/June 1978;
 2. Calls on the European Council to fix a definite date for these elections at its meeting on 7/8 April 1978 in Copenhagen;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the European Council, the Council and Commission of the European Communities and to the governments and parliaments of the Member States.

