

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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RECOMMENDATION

adopted by the  
EEC-GREECE Joint Parliamentary Committee  
at Salonika  
on 17 May 1978

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EEC-GREECE JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE

Salonika, 17 May 1978

Mr E. 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 end of its XIVth  
Session held in Salonika, Greece from 16 to 17 May 1978.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd) Paul L. DE CLERCQ  
Co-Chairman

(sgd) Jean PESMAZOGLOU  
Chairman

EEC-GREECE JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE

XIVth SESSION

16-17 May 1978

SALONIKA

Greece

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

The EEC-Greece Joint Parliamentary Committee held its XIVth session in Salonika from 16 to 17 May 1978 under the chairmanship of Mr Jean PESMAZOGLU, Chairman of the Greek Parliament delegation, and Mr Paul DE CLERCQ, Chairman of the European Parliament delegation.

The session was attended by Mr Georges KONTOGEORGIS, Chairman of the Association Council and Minister without portfolio in the Greek Government responsible for relations with the EEC, Mrs Lise ØSTERGAARD, President-in-Office of the Council of the European Communities and Minister without portfolio of the Kingdom of Denmark, and Mr NATALI, Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities.

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

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

## RECOMMENDATION

The Joint Parliamentary Committee,

- having heard the Chairman of the Association Council, who had submitted a report on activities over the past year, and the representatives of the Greek Government and 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, during which the results achieved by Association and the prospects for accession were assessed;
- having discussed the implementation of the Association Agreement and the progress made in negotiations on Greece's accession to the Community, and having considered international policy questions of common interest, especially those bearing on the situation in the Eastern Mediterranean;

### State of the Association

1. Notes that the development of relations between Greece and the EEC has not yet been such as to ensure achievement of all the objectives of the Athens Agreement, and that Greece's trade deficit with the Community, which fell in 1976, rose sharply in 1977;
2. Notes that the trend of exports of Greek agricultural products to the Community, despite an appreciable increase, did not come up to expectations, in particular because of the failure to apply to those products the intra-Community system owing to the lack of harmonization of agricultural policies;
3. Regrets that, although the Second Financial Protocol was signed on 28 February 1977, the delay in completing the ratification procedures has so far prevented the funds provided for in the Association Agreement from being made available to the Greek economy;
4. Welcomes the setting up in Greece of a Council for Economic and Social Policy which will facilitate the dialogue between representatives of economic and social circles in Greece and representatives of the Community;

#### Negotiations for membership

1. Reaffirms its opinion that Greece's accession will serve to strengthen the Community's cohesion and capacity for action, while allowing the peoples of the Community and of Greece, jointly and on democratic lines, to make advances in the economic, social and political fields;
2. Draws attention to the importance of Greece's accession to the Community for the strengthening of democracy and the consolidation of peace;
3. Declares that Greek membership should strengthen its relations with the European Communities in every field and ought not in any way, during the transitional period, to reduce the guarantees and advantages derived from the Athens Agreement;
4. Welcomes the statement by the Commission that it has set itself the aim of covering all areas under negotiation before the end of summer, and the fact that the Council has expressed its determination to conclude the essential aspects of the negotiations by the end of 1978;
5. Firmly hopes, therefore, that the date of 1st January 1980 can be kept for the entry into force of the Act of Accession of Greece to the European Communities;
6. Emphasizes that these negotiations occupy a unique position by virtue of the existence of the Association Agreement since 1962;
7. Considers that the five-year maximum transitional period requested by Greece is sufficient for the adjustments necessary in certain sectors;
8. Hopes greatly that the conclusion of membership negotiations will allow the Greek people to elect, as soon as possible, their representatives to the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage;
9. Instructs its Chairman to forward this recommendation to the European Parliament and the Greek Parliament, to the Association Council, to the Government of the Hellenic Republic and to the Council and Commission of the European Communities.