
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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DOCUMENT 303/78

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr PORCU, Mr ANSART,
Mr BORDU, Mr EBERHARD and Mr SOURY

with request for immediate vote
pursuant to Rule 47(5) of the
Rules of Procedure

to wind up the debate on the Oral Question
tabled by Mr PISANI and others (Doc. 289/78)

/on the employment situation
in the European Community

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The European Parliament,

- having regard to the drastic level of unemployment which has persisted in the Community since 1974,
 - having regard to the need for an active policy to combat this persistent phenomenon and reduce the enormous waste of human and financial resources which it represents, while the basic social needs of the peoples of the Community are far from being met,
 - whereas the large multinational companies are mainly responsible for the development and probable worsening of this phenomenon,
1. Considers that a real and vigorous anti-unemployment policy should be based on the following three concepts :
 - first, the vital need to boost production in each of the Member States. The employment problem cannot be solved just by redistributing the existing amount of work. New jobs must be created, particularly to ensure that young people reaching working age and women who want to work have a job to go to. To create these jobs, production must be boosted, which will enable the obvious needs mentioned above to be met;
 - second, the need to take measures of a social kind - which will also enable domestic consumption to be boosted in the Member States, at the same time developing cooperation, especially within the EEC; these measures should aim at increasing the purchasing power of earnings, reducing working hours and improving working conditions;
 - third, the development of industrial democracy : workers should be entitled to have a say in the running of their place of work;
 2. Feels that a policy of this kind, based on these guidelines, and making possible further economic growth in the Member States, should be reflected, as a minimum, in the following measures :
 - developing industrial production in each country and intra-Community cooperation, especially in the aviation, iron and steel, textile, machine-tools and shipbuilding industries;

- boosting public consumption by an increase in purchasing power, with priority to the low-paid and tax relief for low-income groups;
 - new building programmes for housing and public, social and cultural amenities;
 - financial support for small and medium-sized businesses, notably channelled through the EIB;
 - a reduction in working time, without reducing earnings, to a maximum of 40 hours for all, aiming at 35 hours a week wherever possible, notably by creating a fifth shift for round-the-clock working;
 - a general and coordinated lowering of the age of retirement on full pension;
 - a reduction in the excessive pace of work, an improvement in safety and the general introduction of a fifth week of paid holiday;
 - the entitlement of workers' organizations within companies to obtain the suspension of any unilateral decision on redundancy or reorganization and to participate in the search for alternative employment where necessary;
3. Considers that there is an urgent need for these guidelines to be implemented by the Member States and the Community Institutions, to reduce this avoidable evil of unemployment, lest the peoples of our countries be further disappointed by what has so far seemed to them to be a Community for the multinationals rather than for well-being, growth and full employment;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission.