

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1976 - 1977

2 February 1977

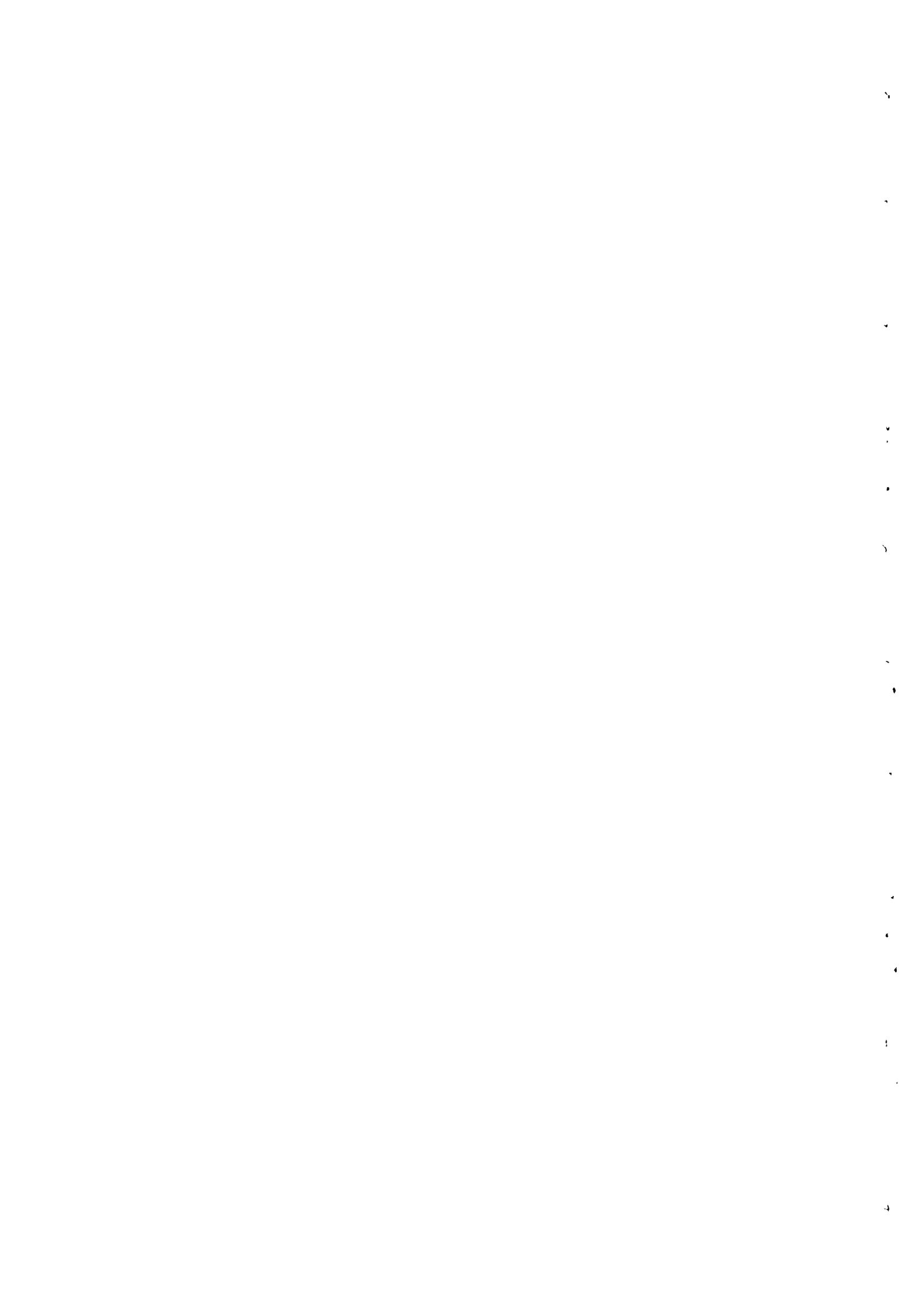
DOCUMENT 537/76

Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Regional Policy, Regional Planning and Transport

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 491/76) for a decision amending the decision on the harmonization of certain provisions affecting competition in transport by rail, road and inland waterway

Rapporteur: Mr P. GIRAUD



By letter of 13 December 1976 the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament, pursuant to Articles 75 and 99 of the EEC Treaty, to deliver an opinion on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a decision amending the decision on the harmonization of certain provisions affecting competition in transport by rail, road and inland waterway.

The President of the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on Regional Policy, Regional Planning and Transport.

On 24 January 1977 the Committee on Regional Policy, Regional Planning and Transport appointed Mr Giraud rapporteur.

It considered this proposal at its meeting of 25 January 1977.

At the same meeting the committee unanimously adopted the motion for a resolution and the explanatory statement.

The Committee on Regional Policy, Regional Planning and Transport decided to ask that this report be considered at a plenary sitting in accordance with the procedure of vote without debate.

Present: Mr Evans, chairman¹; Mr Nyborg and Mr Meintz, vice-chairmen; Mr Albers, Mr Ellis, Mr Fletcher, Mr Hamilton, Mrs Kellett-Bowman, Mr Osborn, Mr Seefeld and Mr Starke.

¹ Who presented the report on behalf of the rapporteur, Mr Giraud.

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A

The Committee on Regional Policy, Regional Planning and Transport hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution, together with explanatory statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a decision amending the decision on the harmonization of certain provisions affecting competition in transport by rail, road and inland waterway

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council¹;
- having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Articles 75 and 99 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. 491/76);
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Regional Policy, Regional Planning and Transport (Doc. 537/76);

Approves the Commission's proposal.

¹ OJ No. C 14, 19.1.1977, p.5

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. The objective of this proposal for a Council decision is to relieve the Commission of the obligation to submit every two years a report on the implementation of Community provisions affecting competition between the so-called traditional means of transport, i.e. road, rail and inland waterway.
2. This obligation stems from Article 15 of Council Decision No. 65/271/EEC of 13 May 1965 on the harmonization of certain provisions affecting competition in transport by rail, road and inland waterway, which is worded as follows:

'Two years after the entry into force of this Decision and every two years thereafter, the Commission shall present to the Council a report on the implementation of this Decision and shall make proposals to amend or supplement it as the establishment of the Common Market and the development of the common transport policy may require.'
3. The Commission advances two arguments in support of its proposal:
 - firstly, the objectives of the provisions laid down in this Decision have been achieved almost in their entirety - for example, those relating to taxation - and certain others have been implemented in full; those concerning certain types of State intervention;
 - secondly, the report provided for in Article 15 would overlap with the reports the Commission already has to submit to the Council every two years, like that concerning the harmonization of certain social provisions.
4. Furthermore, as the Commission itself points out in its explanatory memorandum, the Council did not even examine the most recent reports submitted to it pursuant to Article 15 of the Decision of 13 May 1965.
5. In view of the foregoing, the European Parliament's Committee on Regional Policy, Regional Planning and Transport considers that it can approve this proposal from the Commission without modification.