

## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1980 - 1981

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### MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr CAROSSINO, Mr CARDIA, Mr FANTI,  
Mr CERAVOLO, Mr DE PASQUALE, Mr GOUTHIER  
and Mr SPINELLI

pursuant to Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure

on the amending of the proposals concerning aid  
to projects of Community interest in the field  
of transport infrastructure. Inclusion of  
ports and airports amongst the infrastructures  
which may be financed by the Community



The European Parliament,

I. Noting that:

- (a) eight years after the adoption by Parliament of a resolution on a European Community policy on ports, no significant progress has been made by the Community on a common policy on port transport despite the demonstrable need to make good this serious omission,
- (b) the otherwise praiseworthy memorandum from the Commission on the contributions of the European Communities to the development of air transport services does not envisage any support measures for airport structures,
- (c) one of the reasons for the difficulties encountered with the step-by-step policy pursued by the Community's institutions in the transport sector has been the failure to adopt a coherent system of principles and guidelines which might provide a basis for individual proposals on transport policy and by which such proposals could be judged,
- (d) one of the factors helping further to aggravate these difficulties has been a restrictive interpretation of the Treaty of Rome, and particularly Article 84 thereof, which has led the Commission and the Council to favour measures carried out under a common policy on rail, road and waterway transport and to neglect measures regarding seaports and air transport,
- (e) this course of action should be corrected by rounding off the Community transport policy so that it can promote the coordination, integration and development of the Community's transport network;

II. Whereas:

- (a) the nine-point priority list for air transport approved by the Council in June 1978 provides a programme of action for the Community,
- (b) the Commission's memorandum of 3 August 1979 (COM(79) 311 final) on the contribution of the European Communities to the development of air transport services has further assisted the work of defining in a more complete and detailed way the measures on which future decisions in this field will have to be taken,

- (c) action in the field of transport infrastructure must henceforth be given a prominent position in the development of the common transport policy,
- (d) the Council is examining a proposal from the Commission for a regulation on support for transport projects of Community interest which is intended to give the Community a specific instrument for financial intervention in the infrastructures sector,
- (e) Parliament in its resolution of 4.7.1977 emphasized that the concept of 'transport infrastructure' should clearly include airports and seaports,
- (f) in addition the recent memorandum from the Commission<sup>1</sup> states that particular importance should be given to the development of ports which fulfil an essential function in Community transport,
- (g) the inclusion of seaports amongst the infrastructures which may be financed by the Community is necessary inter alia in order to prevent a distortion of competition in favour of the larger ports situated at the confluences of large river systems which would receive aid and other seaports such as those of the northern Tyrrhenian and northern Adriatic which would not receive any assistance from the Community;

1. Deplores:

- (a) the behaviour of the Council which, when approving the consultation procedure and the creation of a committee for transport infrastructure, did not give consideration to Parliament's opinion which favoured the inclusion of ports and airports amongst transport infrastructures,
- (b) the Council's failure to adopt the regulation concerning aid to projects of Community interest in the field of transport infrastructure which is necessary if the expression of intentions is to be translated into concrete Community action to build a Community transport system,

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<sup>1</sup> Memorandum COM(79) 550 final on the role of the Community in the development of transport infrastructure.

- (c) the continuing serious underestimation of the present and future needs of trade between Community countries and between Europe and the rest of the world when formulating a proposal for an active policy on ports,
  - (d) the passivity of the Commission in its failure to present any proposal for a policy on ports in spite of the fact that the report on the actual situation of seaports drawn up by the Ports Working Party shows the important role played by ports which, together with sea transport, have a key function in the economic development of Europe and the safeguarding of its prosperity;
- 2. Invites the Commission to present a proposal for a Community policy on ports;
  - 3. Requests the Council to adopt the proposals concerning aid to projects of Community interest in the field of transport infrastructure and to bring ports and airports within the list of infrastructures which may benefit from Community financing;
  - 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission of the European Communities.

