

# European Communities

---

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## Working Documents

1972 - 1973

---

1 July 1972

DOCUMENT 82/72

### Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on External Trade Relations

on parliamentary relations between the European Community and the United States of America

Rapporteur: Mr Willem J. SCHUIJT

PE 30.399/def.



By a decision of 15 June 1972, the President of the European Parliament authorized the Committee on External Trade Relations to draw up a report on parliamentary relations between the European Community and the United States of America after the return of the delegation from the European Parliament which had visited Washington, D.C., from 30 May to 1 June 1972.

At its meeting of 27 June 1972, the Committee on External Trade Relations appointed Mr Schuijt rapporteur.

This motion for a resolution and the explanatory statement were adopted unanimously, with one abstention, on the same date.

The following were present: Mr de la Malène, Chairman, Mr Boano, Vice-Chairman, Mr Schuijt, Rapporteur, Mr D'Angelosante, Mr Dewulf, Mr De Koning, Mr Mommersteeg, Mr Richarts (deputizing for Mr Starke), Mr Riedel, Mr Rossi and Mr Vredeling.

C o n t e n t s

	<u>Page</u>
A. MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION .....	5
B. EXPLANATORY STATEMENT .....	6
ANNEX I .....	15

A

The Committee on External Trade Relations hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution, together with explanatory statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on parliamentary relations between the European  
Community and the United States of America

The European Parliament,

- welcoming the initiative taken by both sides in organizing the meetings held in January and May 1972 with Members of the United States Congress which have laid the foundations of a parliamentary dialogue between the United States and the European Community;
  - having regard to the joint statement issued after the meeting in May 1972;
  - having regard to the report of the Committee on External Trade Relations (Doc. 82/72);
1. Considers it desirable for contacts between the United States Administration and the Commission of the European Communities to be supplemented at the political level by a parliamentary dialogue between Members of Congress and Members of the European Parliament;
  2. Resolves to pursue and strengthen the new parliamentary relations in agreement with the United States Congress;
  3. Invites its President to take all necessary steps, in cooperation with the appropriate American authorities, to organize and ensure the maximum possible effectiveness for future working meetings which would in principle be held twice each year, alternately in the European Community and in the United States;
  4. Further invites its President to forward this resolution and the report of the Committee on External Trade Relations to the Council and Commission of the European Communities and, for information, to the responsible organs of the Congress of the United States of America.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENTINTRODUCTION

1. In January 1972, a number of Members of the European Parliament met Members of the US House of Representatives in Brussels and Luxembourg.

The first of these meetings was held in Brussels on 10 January 1972, during a visit to Europe by a delegation from the Ways and Means Committee of the House<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> The following Members attended this meeting:

- from the House of Representatives:

Mr Al Ullman, Chairman (dem., Oreg.)  
 Mr Byrnes, Vice-Chairman (rep., Wis.)  
 Mr Betts (rep., Ohio)  
 Mr Brotzman (rep., Colo.)  
 Mr Carey (dem., N.Y.)  
 Mr Chamberlain (rep., Mich.)  
 Mr Conable, Jr. (rep., N.Y.)  
 Mr Corman (dem., Cal.)  
 Mr Fulton (dem., Tenn.)  
 Mr Gibbons (dem., Flo.)  
 Mr Karth (dem., St. Paul, Minn.)  
 Mr Landrum (dem., Ga.)  
 Mr Pettis (rep., Cal.)  
 Mr Schneebeli (rep., Pa.)  
 Mr Vanik (dem., Ohio)  
 Mr Waggoner, Jr. (dem., Louisiana)

- from the European Parliament:

Mr Bersani, Chairman, Vice-President of the European Parliament, Italian Member, christian-democrat  
 Mr Berkhouwer, Dutch Member, Chairman of the liberals and allies group  
 Mr Califice, Belgian Member, christian-democrat group  
 Mr Cousté, French Member, UDE group  
 Mr Kriedemann, Vice-Chairman of the European Parliament's Committee on External Trade Relations, German Member, socialist group  
 Mr Lange, Chairman of the European Parliament's Economic Affairs Committee, German Member, socialist group  
 Mr Lautenschlager, Vice-Chairman of the European Parliament's Political Affairs Committee, German Member, socialist group  
 Mr Lucius, Vice-President of the European Parliament, Luxembourg Member, christian-democrat group  
 Mr Merchiers, Vice-President of the European Parliament, Belgian Senator, liberals and allies group  
 Mr Radoux, Belgian Member, Vice-Chairman of the socialist group  
 Mr Richarts, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, German Member, christian-democrat group  
 Mr Scarascia Mugnozza, Chairman of the European Parliament's Political Affairs Committee, Italian Member, christian-democrat group  
 Mr Triboulet, French Member, Chairman of the European Democratic Union group  
 Mr Vetrone, Italian Member, christian-democrat group  
 Mr Vredeling, Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, Dutch Member, socialist group

See Doc. PE 29 349 for the minutes of this meeting.

A few days later, on 22 January 1972, a second delegation from the House of Representative, consisting of members of the Sub-Committees on Europe and on International Organizations and Movements of the Committee on Foreign Affairs<sup>1</sup>, on a visit to Europe, met Members of the European Parliament during a session in Luxembourg<sup>2</sup>.

2. The European Members immediately felt that these initial contacts and talks between elected representatives of the American people and European parliamentarians met a very real need and that further meetings could usefully complement the negotiations taking place between the United States and the European Community.

---

<sup>1</sup> The House of Representative has twenty-one standing committees.

<sup>2</sup> The American delegation was led by  
Mr Rosenthal, Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Europe, democrat,  
New York, and  
Mr Fraser, Chairman of the Sub-Committee on International Organizations and Movements, democrat, Minnesota

and included the following Members:

Mr Burke, democrat, Florida  
Mr Edwards, republican, Alabama  
Mr Murphy, democrat, Illinois  
Mr Roybal, democrat, California  
Mr Vander Jagt, republican, Michigan  
Mr Wolff, democrat, New York

The following Members of the European Parliament took part in the talks:

Mr Bersani, Chairman of the delegation, Vice-President of the European Parliament, christian-democrat group, Italian  
Mr Boano, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on External Trade Relations, christian-democrat group, Italian  
Mr Bousquet, UDE group, French  
Mr de Winter, Chairman of the Committee for the Association with Turkey, christian-democrat group, Belgian  
Mr Houdet, liberal group, French  
Mr Hunault, UDE group, French  
Mr Jahn, christian-democrat group, German  
Mr Klinker, christian-democrat group, German  
Mr Lange, Chairman of the Economic Affairs Committee, socialist group, German  
Mr Leonardi, non-attached, Italian  
Mr Liogier, UDE group, French  
Mr Lucius, Vice-President of the European Parliament, christian-democrat group, Luxembourg  
Mr Luecker, Chairman of the christian-democrat group, German  
Mr Mommersteeg, christian-democrat group, Dutch  
Mr Richarts, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, christian-democrat group, German  
Mr Vredeling, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, socialist group, Dutch  
Mr Wolfram, socialist group, German

See Doc. PE 29 694 for the minutes of this meeting.

This feeling was fully shared by the American Members, as is confirmed by the content of the report submitted by Mr Rosenthal and Mr Fraser to the Foreign Affairs Committee on their mission to Europe<sup>1</sup>.

They stressed that the areas of agreement between the American and European parliamentarians were far wider than the relatively minor issues on which they might disagree. In the conclusions to this report, the American parliamentarians announced their decision to continue the examination of certain matters in greater detail with their European colleagues, having regard to the broad agreement existing between them on ultimate objectives, the shared experience of elected Members of Parliament and their common cultural heritage.

3. These statements were promptly followed by an invitation sent by Mr Rosenthal and Mr Fraser to the European Parliament. It should be stressed here to the credit of these two distinguished American parliamentarians that they actually initiated parliamentary relations between their country and the European Community at a particularly opportune time. Although relations between the Community and the United States remain friendly, they are nevertheless passing through a stage of disillusion, misunderstanding or even tension. It was therefore a political task of the foremost importance to create a new psychological climate, firmly rooted in the new circumstances and realities of the 1970s. This initiative has already begun to bear fruit.

---

<sup>1</sup> Cf. 'THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THE AMERICAN INTEREST, Report of Special Study Mission to Europe, January 1972 by Hon. Benjamin S. Rosenthal, New York - Chairman, Subcommittee on Europe and Hon. Donald M. Fraser, Minnesota - Chairman, Subcommittee on International Organizations and Movements, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, pursuant to H. Res. 109 authorizing the Committee on Foreign Affairs to conduct thorough studies and investigations of all matters coming within the jurisdiction of the Committee - March 19, 1972', pages 1-10, 40-41.



Visit of a Delegation from the European Parliament to Washington, D.C.

(30 May - 1 June 1972)

4. In response to the American invitation, a delegation from the European Parliament visited Washington from 30 May to 1 June 1972 to establish further contacts and hold discussion.<sup>1</sup>

The programme, prepared in cooperation with the delegation and the Information Service of the Commission of the European Communities in Washington<sup>2</sup>, included seven discussions with Members of the House of Representatives<sup>3</sup>, informational visits to the Department of State, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Agriculture and the Department for the Treasury, as well as an exchange of views with President Nixon's economic advisers in the White House<sup>4</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup> The delegation from the European Parliament was led by  
Mr Schuijt, Vice-President of the European Parliament (christian-democrat, Dutch

and included:

- Mr de la Malène, Chairman of the Committee on External Trade Relations (UDE, French)
- Mr Cousté, Chairman of the Committee for the Association with Greece, Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the Association with Turkey (affiliated to UDE, French)
- Mr Lautenschlager, Acting Chairman of the Political Affairs Committee (socialist, German)
- Mr Vredeling, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture (socialist, Dutch)
- Mr Richarts, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture (christian-democrat, German)
- Mr Durand, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Social Affairs and Health Protection (liberal, French)
- Mr Boano, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on External Trade Relations (christian-democrat, Italian)
- Mr Dewulf, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Relations with African States and Madagascar (christian-democrat, Belgian)
- Mr Borm, (liberal, German)
- Mr Memmel, (christian-democrat, German)
- Mr Wolfram, (socialist, German)

During the examination of this report, one member of the Committee expressed his regret that the non-attached members of the European Parliament had not been represented on this parliamentary delegation and hoped that they would in future be included in delegations appointed to meet American parliamentarians.

<sup>2</sup> Address: 2100 M Street N W Suite 707, Washington D.C., 200 37  
Tel. (202) 296-5145 and 296-5131  
Telex: Washington COMEU UR 24455

<sup>3</sup> The delegation met the following Congressmen:

Members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs

- Mr Thomas E. Morgan, Pa., Chairman of the Committee
- Mr Donald M. Fraser, Minnesota
- Mr Benjamin S. Rosenthal, New York
- Mr John S. Monagan, Connecticut
- Mr Edward J. Derwinski, Illinois

3 Continued from page 9:

Mr Roy A. Taylor, North Carolina  
Mr Peter H.B. Frelinghuysen, New Jersey  
Mr Paul Findley, Illinois  
Mr J. Herbert Burke, Florida  
Mr Guy Vander Jagt, Michigan  
Mr Charles W. Whalen, Jr., Ohio  
Mr William S. Mailliard, California, Ranking Minority Member of the  
Committee

Members of the Ways and Means Committee

Mr Al Ullman, Oregon  
Mr Hugh L. Carey, New York  
Mr Herman T. Schneebeli, Pennsylvania  
Mr Barber B. Conable, Jr., New York  
Mr Jerry L. Pettis, California

Members of other Committees

Mr Henry S. Reuss, Wisconsin  
Mr Albert W. Johnson, Pennsylvania (Banking and Currency Committee)  
Mr Donald W. Riegle, Jr., Michigan (Appropriations Committee)  
Mr Thomas S. Foley, Washington  
Mr John Melcher, Montana  
Mr Robert B. Mathias, California (Committee on Agriculture)

4 During its visits to the Ministries and White House, the delegation met the following:

At the Department of State

Under Secretary of State John N. Irwin II (Acting Secretary)  
Deputy Secretary of State for Economic Affairs Nathaniel Samuels  
Ambassador J. Robert Schaetzel  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs  
Russell Fessenden  
Mr Abraham Katz, Director, OECD, European Community and Atlantic  
Political-Economic Affairs  
Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations  
David M. Abshire  
Assistant Secretary of State for Economic Affairs Willis Armstrong  
Under Secretary of the Treasury Charles Walker  
Special Trade Representative William Eberle  
Special Assistant to the President John Rose (Council on Intern.  
Econ. Policy)  
Julius L. Katz, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International  
Resources and Food Policy, Bureau of European Affairs  
Sidney Weintraub, Dep. Ass't Secretary for International Finance and  
Development, Bureau of Economic Affairs

At the Department of Commerce

Peter Peterson, Secretary of Commerce  
Lawrence Fox, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for International  
Economic Policy  
Fredrick Strauss, Director, Western European Division  
Forest Abbuhl, Director Office of International Trade Policy

At the Department of Agriculture

Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz  
Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Clarence D. Palmby

4 Continued from page 10:

At the Department of the Treasury

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Development Finance  
John M. Hennessy  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Industrial Nations Finance  
William C. Cates

At the White House

Herbert Stein, Chairman, Council of Economic Advisers  
Marina V.N. Whitman, member of CEA  
Deane Hinton, senior staff member, Council on International Economic  
Policy  
Harald Malmgren, Deputy Special Trade Representative  
Robert Hormats, senior staff member, National Security Council

5. At the start of the talks, the Chairman of the delegation from the European Parliament outlined the terms of reference and aims of the visiting group of Members, i.e. to make personal contacts, collect information, sound the opinions and feelings of their American opposite numbers and open a continuous dialogue in a spirit of mutual understanding.

6. The seven exchanges of opinion between the parliamentarians centred on the following topics:

- the state of relations between the United States and Europe, with particular reference to security problems 'after Moscow' and 'before Helsinki';
- political relations with the third world; shared and divergent aims of the European Community and United States in their policy on development cooperation;
- the respective agricultural policies of the European Community and the United States and the relationship between them;
- trade relations between the United States and the European Community and trade with other countries;
- monetary problems between the United States and the European Community; possible approaches and solutions;
- the constitutional and political role of the legislature in the United States and the corresponding role of the European Parliament in the European Community;
- the political development of the European Community and its consequences for the United States.

These discussions, supported by useful talks in the different Ministries, yielded extremely valuable information obtained from authoritative sources at a high level of political responsibility. The main themes discussed by the participants have been summarized in a short report<sup>1</sup>.

7. The results of these inter-parliamentary talks were on the whole very positive. It was unanimously agreed that short-term divergences of interests were insignificant in comparison with common long range interests and shared responsibilities. It was also recognized that the existence of substantially different concepts and lines of thought in certain specific political areas should no longer be an emotional obstacle to the practical improvement of relations in these areas.

---

<sup>1</sup> Doc. PE 30 418.

A common resolve emerged to do everything possible to move beyond the stage of mutual irritation and misunderstanding, stemming largely from changes in the short-term economic or structural position of the partners, and concentrate instead on the new horizons which will be shared by both sides in the medium and long term.

Both parties agreed that the nature of the relationship between the United States and the European Community would be different in future: hitherto it had been coloured by the post-war situation and centred primarily on common problems of security and defence, whereas economic, social and monetary matters were now the focal points in a new world political dimension resulting from the outward-looking approach of both partners.

In this new situation, which corresponds to the new realities, there is room for substantial improvement in mutual information and hence in understanding between the partners, together with bilateral negotiations on bilateral issues, whenever the need arises, and joint preparation of multi-lateral negotiations or conferences with a view to defining, wherever possible, similar or coordinated positions.

8. At the end of their two-day meeting, the delegation from the European Parliament and the delegation from the American Congress adopted a joint statement<sup>1</sup>.

In this statement, the European parliamentarians recognized the existence of a fund of political goodwill in the American Congress encouraging the growth of a strong, integrated Europe even if that unity may appear to have certain negative implications for the United States.

The American and European parliamentarians both stressed the important part which elected assemblies could play in strengthening the whole range of relations between Europe and America.

The statement placed particular emphasis on the need for regular meetings between parliamentarians on both sides of the Atlantic to enable them to put their points of view directly, and personally receive authoritative information, at a time when the development of closer ties between the United States and the European Community is, in the opinion of all the participants, of crucial importance.

---

<sup>1</sup> See Annex 1 for the full text of this statement.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The rapporteur believes that the delegation from the European Parliament fully complied with its terms of reference during its visit to the United States Congress.

This second meeting with Members of the House of Representatives marks a strengthening of parliamentary relations between the EEC and America after the initial contacts in January 1972.

All the Members of the delegation returned from Washington with a particularly rich store of information and experience which will be of direct benefit to the European Parliament in its entirety. The European and American participants in the Washington discussions agreed to move towards sustained cooperation through what might be termed a permanent contact and working body.

In response to an invitation from the European Parliament, an American delegation will resume the interparliamentary dialogue in Europe during the first quarter of 1973.

---

A joint statement by Members of the European Parliament  
and of the American Congress at the close of a two-day  
meeting on United States - European relations,  
WASHINGTON, D.C., May 30-31, 1972

---

Members of the United States Congress and a delegation of the European Parliament today concluded a series of discussions on United States - European relations in Washington, D.C. The meetings were a result of an invitation by members of the United States Congress to the members of the Parliament of the European Community in response to visits made in January of this year by members of Congress to European Community institutions in Brussels and Luxembourg.

Discussions covered aid and development, trade, agricultural, and monetary issues as well as political-security questions. The role of the respective legislatures today and their potential as improved instruments of popular participation within systems of government on both sides of the Atlantic has been stressed.

The meetings explored the origins of differences as well as of common interests existing between the United States and the European Community.

The American participants were aware that the European Parliament is the institution of popular representation of the European Community.

The European participants realized that a reservoir of goodwill exists in the American Congress encouraging the growth of a strong, integrated Europe even if that unity may challenge present-day concepts of national or regional interests on specific issues.

Out of these discussions emerged a common conviction about future relations between the United States and Europe:

the need for parliamentarians, as elected representatives, to develop with each other a more substantive view of shared US-European problems;

the importance of frequent and regular meetings to allow thorough and detailed exposure of European-American relations in all aspects.

Both US and European parliamentarians expressed a common conviction that a renewed understanding of the role of elected assemblies was imperative. They reaffirmed the constant need to safeguard human liberties through the balance of executive powers by popularly-elected representatives.

Finally, both parties declared that the relationship between the United States and the European Community in the years to come is of crucial importance and that parliamentarians on both sides of the Atlantic must give full support to continuing efforts to improve this relationship.





