

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982 - 1983

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15 NOVEMBER 1982

DOCUMENT 1-898/82/rev.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr LEZZI, Mrs CASANMAGNAGO CERRETTI, Mr FERRERO,  
Mrs CASTELLINA, Mr RUFFOLO, Mr DIDO, Mr ZAGARI, Mr BONACCINI,  
Mr GATTO, Mrs van den HEUVEL, Mr RIPA DI MEANA, Mrs SQUARCIALUPI,  
Mr VANDEMEULEBROUCKE, Mrs DURY, Mr BERSANI, Mr CHAMBEIRON,  
Mrs LIZIN, Mrs PRUVOT, Mrs BADUEL GLORIOSO, Mr PEDINI, Mr G. FUCHS,  
Mr IRMER, Mrs WIECZOREK ZEUL, Mrs GAIOTTI DE BIASE, and Mr VERONESI

with request for topical and urgent debate

pursuant to Rule 48 of the Rules of Procedure

on the situation in Uruguay

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to its resolution of 11 March 1982 on Uruguay,
- B. whereas the concern expressed on that occasion has not been taken into account in the process of approving the law on the parties, and in particular:
- (i) the human rights situation has deteriorated: more than one thousand prisoners of conscience continue to be held under very harsh conditions of imprisonment, 'retention' is regularly practised whereby prisoners are not released on completion of their sentence, the practice of holding hostages persists, as does torture and the disappearance of prisoners;
  - (ii) opposition newspapers OPINAR, LA DEMOCRACIA, LA PLAZA and LA RAZON have been closed down for long periods or entirely;
  - (iii) very serious developments have occurred in the last month, in particular the total closing down of the Christian-Democrat weekly OPCION, the arrest and subsequent release of Christian-Democrat and independent members of the Comision por el Voto en Blanco, the detention of four important leaders of the "Partido Nacional" condemned by military tribunal for opinions expressed in electoral speeches;
1. Stresses that the facts referred to above gravely undermine the process of liberalization announced by the Uruguayan Government, the first stage of which was to be the "internal elections of political parties" to be held on 28 November 1982;
  2. Emphasizes that only a process of genuine political liberalization without any exclusion, without trade union or political prisoners, without proscription, and only respect for the wishes of the people as clearly expressed on 30 November 1980 can lead the country towards democracy and national reconstruction;
  3. Calls on the Uruguayan Government to release all political and trade union prisoners, and in particular General Liber Seregni ;
  4. Calls on the Uruguayan Government to take urgent steps permitting a return to a free and democratic system;
  5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission and to the Uruguayan Government.