

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1983-1984

7 July 1983

DOCUMENT

1-581/83

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr EPHREMIDIS, Mr ADAMOÛ and Mr ALAVANOS

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on Greek wine

PE 85.829

The European Parliament,

- A) having regard to the fact that Greek accession to the EEC has seriously aggravated the problems facing Greek wine production,
- B) aware of the fact that there are large stocks of unsold Greek wine and that the cooperatives, in particular, are at present holding stocks of 210,000 tonnes of wine,
- C) noting that Greek wine production fell from 120,000 tonnes in 1980 to 40,000 tonnes in 1981, the first year of accession to the EEC,
- D) stressing that, at the same time, in 1981 the value of French and Italian wine imports to Greece rose to one thousand million drachmas,
- E) whereas, through the application of Regulation 456/80 on the voluntary renunciation of replanting of certain areas under vines, traditional wine production structures - producing wine with 11% alcohol - are being dismantled, while in other countries wine production is being continued - producing wine with 5.6% alcohol, which is then reinforced with sugar,
- F) having regard to the fact that distillation does not constitute a real solution since it leads to a loss of markets and foreign exchange and the uprooting of vineyards, and acts as a permanent disincentive to viticulture,
- G) having regard to the fierce competition encountered by Greek wine from beer, especially in recent years (the annual consumption of wine per head of population is less than 40 litres in Greece)

1. Calls on the Commission and the Council:

- a) to alter the intervention price paid to the producer for grapes destined for vinification;
- b) to alter the regime on wine by providing substantial export subsidies for markets outside the Community as is the case with other agricultural products;

- c) to abrogate Regulation No. 456/80 and, instead, to provide financial aid for the modernization and qualitative improvement of viticulture and for setting up linear plantations for quality wine with a high alcohol content;
 - d) to provide special assistance to cooperative organizations for the modernization of pulp plants and for bottling and standardization, etc.;
 - e) to adopt a regulation forbidding the reinforcement of wine with alcohol derived from sugar, etc.;
 - f) to lay down that brandy manufactured exclusively from alcohol derived from grapes;
 - g) to lay down that alcohol derived from grapes be used for the production of dessert wines, vermouth, etc.;
2. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and to the Commission.

