
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1979 - 1980

5 November 1979

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Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Budgets

on the adaptations to ~~Section I~~ - Parliament -
of the draft general budget of the European
Communities for the financial year 1980

Rapporteur: Mr Robert JACKSON

12.1

PE 59.994/fin.

The Committee on Budgets appointed Mr JACKSON rapporteur on the adaptations to the establishment plan and to the draft estimates for the European Parliament for the 1980 budget at its meeting of 6 September 1979.

Draft amendments have been drawn up by the rapporteur in the light of the proposals of the enlarged Bureau, submitted in application of Article 50 of the Rules of Procedure.

At its meeting of 18 October 1979 the Committee on Budgets unanimously adopted the following resolution.

The amendments adopted by the Committee on Budgets at the same meeting are annexed to this report.

Present: Mr Lange, Chairman; Mr Notenboom, first Vice-Chairman; Mr Spinelli, second Vice-Chairman; Mr Rossi, third Vice-Chairman; Mr Jackson, rapporteur; Mr Ansquer, Mrs Cassanmagnago Cerretti (deputizing for Mr Lega), Mr Cohen, (deputizing for Mrs Gaspard), Mr Colla, Mr Coppieters (deputizing for Mr Bonde), Mr Dankert, Mr Forth, Mr Gouthier, Mrs Gredal, Mr Griffiths (deputizing for Mr Balfe), Mrs Hoff, Mr Hord, Mr Johnson (deputizing for Lord O'Hagan), Mr Langes, Mr Nord, Mr Pfennig, Mr Ryan, Mr Sassano (deputizing for Mr Adonnino), Mr Konrad Schön, Mr Scott-Hopkins (deputizing for Mr Tuckman), Mr Simonnet, Mr John Mark Taylor, Mr Travaglini (deputizing for Mr Barbi) and Mr Vondeling (deputizing for Mr Motchane).

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The Committee on Budgets hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on the adaptations to Section I - Parliament - of the draft general budget of the European Communities for the financial year 1980

The European Parliament,

- on the basis of Rules 23, 49 and 50 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of its Committee on Budgets (Doc. 1-459/79) and the draft amendments relating thereto,
- a. Whereas the Parliament needs to exercise the utmost restraint as regards its own establishment plan and budget so as to safeguard its credibility in the exercise of its responsibilities; and so as to take account of the interest of public opinion throughout the Community since direct elections,
 - b. Whereas the draft budget drawn up by Council has already increased Parliament's establishment plan by 213 posts in addition to the 1,917 permanent posts existing in 1979,
 - c. In view of the severe shortage of office space for the institution in its three working places,
 - d. Whereas the doubling of the number of its members and their increased level of activity, consequent upon their directly elected status will impose a considerable extra work load on its administrative machinery,
 - e. Whereas the accession of a new Member State in 1981 will require preparations to be made during the 1980 financial year necessitating, in particular, the strengthening of the linguistic services,

- i. Conscious both of the unacceptable extra burden on its budget and its establishment plan resulting from the multiplicity of working places and also of the unavoidable extra burden on its budget and its establishment plan resulting from the obligation to work in all the official languages of the Community,

As regards the establishment plan

1. Recognises that a further extension of its establishment plan will be necessary to cope with the new structures following direct elections and to prepare for and facilitate the reception of Greek Members of Parliament in 1981;
2. Considers that the 188 posts created and frozen in the draft 1980 budget should remain frozen, to be unfrozen by the Bureau and its Committee on Budgets after a thorough examination of the Parliament's structure and should be considered, in the meantime, as a general reserve; considers that a further 113 temporary posts should be created in order to prepare for the accession of Greece on 1 January 1981, in line with the preparations taking place in the other institutions;
3. Suggests that the working group set up by the Bureau for the purpose of preparing this examination of structures should equip itself with the necessary independent expertise with which to make a thorough analysis of the management problems of the institution;
4. Considers that there is a need for the strengthening of the secretariats of its political groups; considers that to help the political groups in their study of their precise needs in the light of experience, the increase proposed for these secretariats should take place over a three-year period;
5. Agrees to a limited number of posts for the secretariat of the Quaestors and the Vice-Presidents, to be taken from the general reserve of 188 posts included in the draft budget for 1980;
6. Approves the proposals to strengthen the private office of the President;

As regards appropriations

7. Notes the increase in appropriations for 1980 made necessary by the increased size of the institution and by the extension of its establishment plan;
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8. Believes that the existing arrangements with respect to Members' salaries and allowances are provisional and that the fact that Members are European representatives requires that European solutions be found;
 9. Believes that the increased staff appropriations made available should be sufficient to cover requests from the Staff Committee, supported by the Bureau, for increasing staff at the day nursery and for permitting the extension of part-time working;

As regards the working places of the institution

10. Points to the unacceptable extra burden on its budget resulting from the multiplicity of the Parliament's working places and to its serious effects not only on the institution's budget but also on administrative efficiency;
11. Calls for a definitive decision leading to a concentration of its activities to be made by the end of 1980 in order to eliminate the unjustifiable spending of taxpayers' money;

As regards administrative structures

12. Recognises the need for a comprehensive mobility policy to be applied to staff in the administrative grades and calls upon the heads of the administrations of all the institutions to apply common rules for mobility and to link mobility and the acquisition of managerial skills with promotion prospects;

13. Acknowledges that there are artificial career blockages for the staff in certain lower categories which should be removed;
14. Repeats its request to the Commission to bring forward proposals for the creation of a common recruitment agency in order to avoid overlapping and waste and to enable recruitment to be organised on a professional and independent basis.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENTThe procedure for approving adaptations to the budget of Parliament

1. Rules 49 and 50 of the Rules of Procedure read as follows:

Rule 49 '1. Parliament shall be assisted by a Secretary-General appointed by the Bureau.

The Secretary-General shall give a solemn undertaking before the Bureau to perform his duties conscientiously and with absolute impartiality.

2. The Secretary-General shall head a Secretariat the composition and organization of which shall be determined by the Bureau.
3. The Bureau, after consulting the appropriate committee of Parliament, shall decide the number of staff and lay down regulations relating to their administrative and financial situation.

The Bureau shall also decide to what categories of officials and servants Articles 12 to 14 of the Protocol on the privileges and immunities of the European Communities shall apply in whole or in part.

The President of Parliament shall inform the appropriate institutions of the European Communities accordingly.

Rule 50 1. The Bureau shall draw up a first preliminary draft of the estimates of Parliament on the basis of a report prepared by the Secretary-General, and shall consult the appropriate committee on the subject.

2. After receiving the opinion of that committee, the enlarged Bureau shall adopt the preliminary draft estimates.
3. The President shall forward the preliminary draft estimates to the appropriate committee, which shall draw up the draft estimates and report to Parliament.
4. The President shall fix a time-limit for the tabling of amendments to the draft estimates.

The appropriate committee shall give its opinion on these amendments.

5. Parliament shall adopt the estimates.
6. The President shall forward the estimates to the Commission and Council.
7. The foregoing provisions shall also apply to supplementary estimates.'

2. These rules provide for a division of responsibilities between - the Bureau which is responsible for deciding, subject to approval by the plenary of Parliament, the number and deployment of posts in the establishment plan, and - - the Committee on Budgets, which has the right to be consulted by the Bureau and which has the responsibility of drawing up the draft estimates and reporting to the European Parliament.

3. This year the draft budget, inherited from the non-directly elected Parliament, was drawn up by Council on 11 September, before the new Parliament had had the opportunity to reflect upon it. Accordingly, changes to this draft budget must take the form of amendments put down by the Committee on Budgets. The Bureau requested, on 9 October that the Committee on Budgets should table a certain number of amendments. Your rapporteur has examined these proposals and drawn up amendments both to the list of posts and to the expenditure part of the budget.

4. In accordance with Rule 50, paragraph 3, the Committee on Budgets must examine these amendments, decide whether to table them, and report to Parliament, and give an opinion upon any other amendments. This report and the opinion on amendments will be communicated to the plenary session by your rapporteur.

5. The plenary session on 5, 6 and 7 November will then examine the draft amendments in accordance with the provisions of Article 203 of the Treaty and the Rules of Procedure.

Any amendments adopted by the plenary would then be submitted to the Council for examination by the Council during the second reading of the general budget. Were Council to reject the strongly held view of the Committee on Budgets that it is in the interests of both institutions to maintain the 'gentleman's agreement' between Council and Parliament requiring mutual non-interference in the budget of the other institution and were it to reject, by a qualified majority, amendments to the budget of Parliament, then Parliament would have an opportunity in the December part-session to reinstate these amendments, on the basis of proposals from the Committee on Budgets: but at the expense of other non-compulsory items of expenditure, subject to the maximum rate.

6. In your rapporteur's view, this procedure works best if all parties respect each others' responsibilities throughout and if a serious attempt is made to achieve agreement between the organs and institutions concerned in a spirit of cooperation.

7. His purpose in drafting this report is to seek a reasonable understanding between the Bureau of Parliament and the Committee on Budgets so that a comprehensive package of adaptations, justifiable from a budgetary point of view, can be presented to the special budget session.

As he stated in his report on Section II, 'Council', it would be inappropriate if the discussions and negotiations on the general budget were in any way to be distorted by difficulties over the administrative budgets of the two parts of the Budgetary Authority.

The draft budget of Parliament for 1980

8. The European Parliament adopted its estimates for 1980 at the May part-session. It decided at that time to add a further 188 posts to the establishment plan along with 25 local staff posts put onto the establishment plan. This large increase in posts was felt to be justified in view of the need to give the directly elected Parliament the opportunity to introduce the necessary additional staff as need arose. However, this reserve was allocated in detail to the different departments under the existing establishment plan. Although the non-directly elected Parliament, in conformity with the Financial Regulation, thus provisionally allocated these posts, it did so in the knowledge that the directly elected Parliament may well conceive its needs differently in the light of experience. Your rapporteur believes that in disposing of those 188 posts the Parliament should take account of this flexibility provided by the provisional allocations inherited from our predecessors.

9. On 11 September 1979 the Council drew up the draft budget of Parliament on the basis of the May 1979 estimates. This draft budget included appropriations amounting to 167,880,232 EUA and included all the 188 extra posts added to the establishment plan, as well as the 25 posts converted from local staff.

The adaptations to the 1980 draft budget

10. On 19 September 1979, the Secretary-General drew up a report⁽¹⁾ on the adjustments to be made to the 1980 budget of Parliament. In his view 159 extra staff (8 A, 8 B, 86 C, 13 D, 44 LA), in addition to the 188 already agreed, were necessary, among other things, to take account of the consequences of the accession of Greece and in particular the introduction of a seventh official language. In this context, major increases were sought for Directorate-General I ('Sessional and General Services').

11. Further posts were included for Directorate-General II ('Committees and Inter-Parliamentary Delegations') with three heads of division to act as first secretaries for the new Parliamentary committees and a pool of fourteen studies for Parliamentary hearings.

12. As regards Directorate-General III ('Information and Public Relations'), new staff for an information office in Athens were proposed. This Directorate-General also sought the setting up of a small unit, headed by a principal administrator, in Strasbourg to assist with information visits to the Palais de l'Europe.

13. For Directorate-General IV ('Administration, Personnel and Finance'), extra posts were sought to strengthen Parliament's administrative unit in Brussels, and to equip the Parliament with a team of Greek interpreters. Certain posts were also sought to assist the Directorate-General with the recruitment of Greek officials.

14. As regards Directorate-General V ('Research and Documentation'), no new posts were requested. This Directorate-General had been provisionally allocated some 32 extra posts in the draft budget for 1980.

15. The Secretary-General's report also included a strengthening of the private office of the President with the addition of 4 extra posts (including 1 A1 and 1 A3).

(1) PE 59.419

16. In respect of the political group secretariats, in a letter from the Chairman of the Socialist Group, writing on behalf of the chairmen of all the political groups, ⁽¹⁾ proposals were made for a major increase in the size of the political groups' secretariats, increasing their number from the present level of 147 staff by 128 to 275.

This new staff would be divided up as follows: 52A, 76 B and C.

Subsequently these figures were revised and the total of posts sought was reduced to 123 (50 A, 10 B and 63 C).

17. As regards appropriations, the Secretary-General proposed amendments to the appropriations amounting to 10,920,600 EUA including 5.7 mEUA to cover the extra staff costs, 1.5 mEUA to cover costs related to the Members of Parliament (including secretaries and research assistants) and 2.7 mEUA to cover the costs of equipment.

Opinion of the Committee on Budgets

18. At its meeting of 8 October 1979 it seemed to the Committee on Budgets that Parliament was not yet in a position to assess whether these extra posts, in addition to the 188 already embodied in the draft budget, were really necessary and what use should be made of them.

Following the procedure laid down in Rule 50, paragraph 2, the Committee on Budgets therefore drew up an opinion addressed to the Bureau on the possible changes to the estimates for 1980.⁽²⁾

(1) PE 59.720 Bu.

(2) PE 59.967.

19. The conclusions of this opinion of the Committee on Budgets are restated below:

- (i) As your rapporteur has already pointed out, it was intended that the 188 posts already created in the 1980 draft budget should be released when an assessment of the real needs of the institution, following direct elections, has been made. As yet these needs cannot be fully assessed and the allocation of those posts made in the report of Mr Ripamonti on the draft budget for 1980⁽¹⁾ must be regarded as provisional. In your rapporteur's view, these posts should be considered as a general reserve, without specific allocation to directorates-general and should be allocated when Parliament has had an opportunity to judge from experience what its real administrative needs are.
- (ii) As regards the proposals of the Secretary-General to create a further 159 posts, your rapporteur suggests that the functions of as many as possible of these extra staff heads should be covered from this initial reserve of 188 posts. The major difficulty will arise as a result of the linguistic requirements connected with the accession of Greece in 1981. Where possible, extra posts for Greek officials should be met from the general reserve. This will not be possible however for most of the translating and accompanying secretarial staff. While it may be appropriate for a specific amendment to be tabled for the linguistic services, your rapporteur would suggest that, as far as possible, recourse should be had to auxiliary staff to be financed from the existing appropriations specifically for this purpose (an appropriation of 2,364,000 EUA has been entered under Article 111 "Other Staff" in the 1980 draft budget).
- (iii) All proposals involving any changes in structure should be postponed until such a time as it is possible to form a clearer view of the real needs of the institution. It will then be possible for the enlarged Bureau and the Committee on Budgets to unfreeze the 188 posts created and to make suggestions in time for the 1981 budgetary procedure or for a supplementary budget procedure should this prove to be indispensable. As a matter of principle, however, Parliament should not seek a supplementary budget specifically for its own staff needs.

Your rapporteur does not see the urgency in creating extra posts now to cover possible structural changes, particularly in view of the large number of posts currently unfilled.

(1) PE 58.298

- (iv) In order to help the European Parliament make an assessment of its needs, your rapporteur suggests an independent study of the institution's organisation and management.
- (v) **As regards the requests from the chairman of the political groups, your rapporteur believes that it is necessary to take into account recent developments including the provision of at least one research assistant per Member. Furthermore, the relationship between the Member and his research assistant, secretariats of Parliamentary committees and the political groups' secretariats will have to be examined in the light of experience. Your rapporteur suggests that a procedure similar to the one he recommends for the general secretariat be applied to the secretariats of the political groups. It is not possible at the moment to accept arbitrary criteria such as the provision of 1 A grade group secretariat member per 4 Members of the European Parliament or 1½ B or C posts per 1 A post. These are the type of criteria which will have to be re-examined after a period has elapsed sufficient to form a judgement as to the needs of the groups. They should, by analogy, be provided with a reserve of posts of approximately the same order of proportion as that made available to the general-secretariat, to be used by them when they have a clearer idea of their requirements.**
- (vi) **As regards appropriations, it will be possible to cut back on the overall increase resulting from the deferment of a decision creating any further posts. However, your rapporteur considers that the extra expenditure for operational tasks (Part C of Annex III of the Secretary-General's report) should be added to the draft budget in order to maintain the necessary amount of technical equipment for the directly elected Parliament, provided that there has not been significant over-estimating in the past, for particular lines.**

Deliberations of the Bureau on 9 October 1979

20. Following the timetable laid down for budgetary procedures, the Committee on Budgets deliberated on the Secretary-General's report and the proposals of the political groups at its meeting of 8 October 1979. Because of its difficulties in finding the time, the Bureau had been unable to adopt preliminary draft estimates prior to the meeting of the Committee on Budgets which, however, submitted its observations to the Bureau, as called for by the Rules.

21. Your rapporteur did, however, attend the meeting of the Bureau and was afforded an opportunity at the end of the debate to explain the preoccupations of the Budgets Committee and in particular its concern that Parliament decisions about its own budget should not undermine the credibility of its overall budgetary strategy.

The decisions of the Bureau were transmitted to the Committee by telex and the Committee on Budgets had an opportunity to discuss these proposals at its meeting on 10 October.

22. The decisions of the Bureau can be summarised as follows:

- (i) maintenance of the 188 extra posts included in the draft budget to be unfrozen and allocated in due course;
- (ii) creation of the 159 posts proposed by the Secretary-General to constitute a general reserve with the necessary appropriations included in Chapter 100;
- (iii) creation of 2 A3 posts and 24 B and C posts to provide for collegial and personal assistance to the Vice-Presidents of Parliament;
- (iv) creation of 1 A5/4, 1 A 7/6, 5 B3/2 and 6 C3/2 posts for the secretariat of the Quaestors;
- (v) agreement to the extra posts for the President's office sought in the Secretary-General's report;
- (vi) agreement to the 123 temporary posts, 50 A, 10 B and 63 C posts, sought by the political groups;
- (vii) the setting up of a working party to prepare a report on the structures of the new Parliament and in particular an interim report in time for the meeting of the enlarged Bureau on 22/23 November;
- (viii) the Committee on Budgets was invited to look favourably on requests from the Staff Committee concerning the increase in the numbers of staff for the creche, possibilities for part-time working and the improving of career development in the lower categories of staff.

23. In total, taken together with the 213 posts already included in the draft budget, the decisions of the Bureau amount to the creation of 538 permanent and temporary posts, taking the total size of the establishment plan from 2,087 to 2,625.

As the tables in Annex I show, there has been a remarkable growth in Parliament's establishment plan and in the appropriations included in Section I ('Parliament') of the budget over the last few years. With direct elections, the European Parliament is of course the only Community institution which has undergone significant qualitative development in recent years, and it naturally has been expanding its capacity to deal with the consequences of direct elections. But in the five revisions of estimates since the budget procedures of 1977, and with the package now under review, the process of adaptation should be complete.

24. In order to help your rapporteur to prepare his report the Committee on Budgets asked the President and Secretary-General to supply him with the detailed job description of existing posts within the budget, as well as an explanation of the exact level (grade and category) at which the new posts were requested. This information, which is no more than the Budgetary Authority expects from other institutions, is essential if the Bureau, the Budgets Committee and the plenary are to take an informed decision on the proposals advanced by the Secretary-General.

Your rapporteur regrets that he was not provided with this information.

Position of the Committee on Budgets relative to the Bureau's deliberations

25. Your rapporteur proposes that the Committee on Budgets should accept the need for an increase in the staff of the European Parliament, but that it should reiterate its view that it is not possible to justify the creation of all the 159 extra posts for the general secretariat in addition to the 213 extra posts already included in the draft budget.

26. It is clear that the real needs of the institution cannot yet be known or a judgement reached by the newly elected Parliament. The institution also needs, in any case, to display the degree of austerity in staff policy that it seeks, in its role as Budgetary Authority, to apply to the other institutions.

It would, moreover, not be administratively possible to assimilate the extra staff efficiently within a twelve month period. Further, the chronic shortage of office space would make it impossible to provide appropriate accommodation for new officials. There also exists currently 408 unfilled posts (although procedures are now open for many of these, a very high proportion will be filled internally, creating further vacancies in turn). It must also be pointed out that it will be necessary to leave open a number of places for non-linguistic Greek officials who will need to be recruited at various levels throughout the institution.

27. A number of considerations make it inappropriate to prejudge the results of the examination of Parliament's structures, now to be undertaken by a working party set up by the Bureau - structures which may also be the subject of study by the Budgets Committee. Any examination of this nature cannot be concluded precipitately.

28. There is first the question of how MEPs are to be served in carrying out their Parliamentary responsibilities. A number of facilities exist - their personal research assistants, the secretariats of the political groups, the secretariats of the committees and Parliament's research staff (Directorate-General V). It is in the interests of the institution and of Members themselves that unnecessary expense and duplication in the service of Members of Parliament is avoided. Increasing the number of staff does not mean improving the quality of the work.

29. There are also structural questions relating to the Parliament's services which have yet to be resolved and which will require careful consideration by the working party and, in due course, by the Committee on Budgets.

Should there, for example, be a separate translation service independent of Directorate-General I ('Sessional and General Services') as the translators themselves seek? Certainly the optimum organisation of translation services is a matter which requires careful study.

As regards Directorate-General II ('Committees and Inter-Parliamentary Delegations'), until we know what is to be the scope and work load of the Parliamentary delegations we cannot establish the appropriate level of staff to serve them. The question of the appropriate size of a committee secretariat also needs reflection in the light of the proposed increases in Members' personal staff and the size of the political groups' secretariats. Your rapporteur is of the opinion that the role of the committee staff is crucial. It is also necessary to consider whether a certain number of officials should not be assigned full-time to control work.

For Directorate-General III ('Information and Public Relations'), the advent of directly elected Members raises serious questions concerning the future utility of the external offices of the European Parliament which employ 63 officials (including 22 in the 'A' grade). Direct elections may not only justify increases in staff - they may also make it possible to cut out certain functions. With the increased media attention likely to be devoted to it, the European Parliament may no longer need to provide the same scale of facilities and ready made information as was previously necessary. In this connection, the allocation of 32 staff to the audio-visual sector may need to be reviewed.

In Directorate-General IV ('Administration, Personnel and Finance'), there is a ratio of nearly two officials per directly elected Member. This ratio may be justified but consideration must clearly be given as to whether it constitutes an optimal use of resources. It is also for question whether the time has not come for a new department dealing with the administrative arrangements of Members. The location within this Directorate-General of the interpretation service (87 officials) may be inappropriate.

For Directorate-General V ('Research and Documentation'), it remains to be seen what are the documentation requirements of the new Parliamentarians and their personal assistants. The question of the extension of the library facilities needs to be re-examined; in this context, particular attention should be paid to the feasibility studies on the computerisation of Parliamentary documentation.

In general it would be appropriate to consider whether certain very technical services, necessary for the functioning of the institution, need to be carried out by permanent officials. It may well be that, for a number of services (e.g. medical service, the travel office, banking facilities for members, the audio-visual service) greater recourse should be had to contracting services outside the institution rather than to adding extra permanent staff.

30. These questions, which relate to the organization and structure of the institution, cannot be resolved speedily. Therefore, your rapporteur does not believe that it is appropriate to seek the creation of all the 159 extra posts sought by the Secretary-General in 1980, in addition to the 213 already included in the draft budget. This consideration applies equally to the secretariats of the political groups whose proposals effectively double the number of their staff.

31. Furthermore, in the opinion of your rapporteur, it seems premature to provide large extra staff for the Vice-Presidents before any delegation of presidential functions has been decided upon. The scale of assistance to the Vice-Presidents, if any, must clearly be decided in the light of the extent of any such delegation - which again cannot be concluded precipitately.

32. As regards the secretariat of the Quaestors it appears that the number proposed by the Bureau exceed the wishes of the Quaestors. They must be given more time to reflect on the appropriate structures for their secretariat in the light of their experience. Your rapporteur hopes that they and the Vice-Presidents will not feel it necessary to propose taking up the full extent of their allocation.

33. Your rapporteur recognises that an increase in the size of the private office of the President is appropriate. A relevant yardstick for comparison may be the size of the private office of the President of the Commission; however, as regards the grading of the Director of the private office it must be pointed out that the Director of the private office of the President of the Commission is graded at A2 and not at A1. Should this upgrading be acceded to, your rapporteur believes that it should not be taken as a precedent for upgradings of other senior posts.

34. Your rapporteur notes the endorsement by the Bureau of the Staff Committee's desire for an extension of the day nursery facilities in Luxembourg. If fully acceded to, this would involve a ratio of one day nurse to five infants - a very high ratio which is only justified by the dispersal of creche facilities among various separate centres in Luxembourg. In this context your rapporteur recommends that the European Parliament draws the attention of the Luxembourg Government to its pressing commitments to provide an essential day nursery facility for the children of Community civil servants.

35. The Committee instructed your rapporteur to draw to the attention of the Bureau and to the plenary session the Committee's strongly held view that the present arrangements governing Members' salaries and allowances should be regarded as provisional. The fact that Members are European representatives requires that a European solution be found.

Conclusions of the Committee on Budgets

36. The Committee on Budgets

(i) Submits for Parliamentary examination draft amendments taking account of the Bureau's decisions of 9 October 1979.

(ii) Considers that the 188 posts created and frozen in the draft 1980 budget should remain frozen, to be unfrozen by the Bureau and its Committee on Budgets after a thorough examination of the Parliament's structure, and should be considered, in the meantime, as a general reserve;

(iii) Considers that the immediate creation of a reserve of 159 extra posts in the general secretariat, in addition to the extra 213 posts already created in the draft budget for 1980, cannot be justified in view of

(a) the need for restraint, (b) the fact that Parliament's needs cannot yet be established, (c) the absence of office space, (d) the large number of vacant posts currently in existence, (e) the need to leave a certain number of places open for Greek non-linguistic officials and (f) the delays inevitably involved in the current recruitment procedures.

(iv) Therefore proposes that 113 temporary posts should be created, mostly in the linguistic services, in order to prepare for Greek accession on 1 January 1981, and in line with the preparations taking place in the other institutions.

(v) Proposes that half the posts sought by the political groups should be made available immediately, half being frozen until such a time as a full assessment of their needs has been made; this total (of 123 posts) should be regarded as a maximum in the hope that fewer posts will in fact be required.

(vi) Proposes to Parliament that it indicates its intention not to increase, as far as possible, the establishment plan for either the general secretariat or the political groups for three years.

(vii) Proposes that should Parliament decide to create certain posts for the secretariat of the Vice-Presidents and the Quaestors, that these posts should be taken from the general reserve of 188 posts already included in the 1980 draft budget.

(viii) Approves the creation of the extra posts sought in the President's private office, provided that the upgrading of the post of Director of the private office is not taken as a precedent for further upgradings in senior posts.

(ix) Agrees to extend the creche facilities with an increase in the number of day nurses, as sought by the Staff Committee, but believes that the reserve of posts created in the 1980 budget should be sufficient to meet this need; reminds the Luxembourg Government of its commitment to provide a central day nursery facility for the children of Community civil servants.

(x) Looks favourably on the Staff Committee's requests to extend the possibilities of part-time work but again considers that the extra posts available in the 1980 establishment plan should be sufficient to meet this requirement.

(xi) Believes that the additional posts which will become available in 1980 should permit career development for 'C' and 'D' grade officials into the superior categories.

Growth in Parliament's establishment plan and appropriations ANNEX I
in recent years: comparison with other institutions

T A B L E 1

GROWTH IN PARLIAMENT'S ESTABLISHMENT PLAN

	PERMANENT	GROUP	TEMP	TOTAL	% increase
1) 1976	1277	127		1404	
2) 1977	1375	131	9	1515	7.9
3) 1978	1540	135	11	1686	11.2
4) 1979	1810	147	11	1968	16.7
+ supplementary budget No. 1	1917	147	13	2077	23.2
5) 1980 draft	2130	147	13	2290	10.2
6) 1980 draft + recommendations of Bureau	2304	275	37	2616	25.9

It should be noted that the European Parliament is the only institution to have undergone a significant qualitative development during the period under examination.

It should also be noted that in its decision of 18 July 1979 the Bureau allocated some 32,000 EUA per year to each Member of Parliament for secretarial and research assistance. Taking into account these posts there would be, indirectly employed by the institution, at least 820 individuals.

TABLE 2

GROWTH IN EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT'S APPROPRIATIONS

		<u>% increase</u>
1974 Expenditure	32,210,293.40	
1975 "	39,688,435.78	23.2
1976 "	45,989,859.4	15.8
1977 "	61,633,604.56	34.0
1978 "	93,001,844.08	50.8
1979 Budget	114,203,705.	22.7
1979 after Suppl. Budget No. 2	144,190,700.	55.4
1980 Draft	167,203,705.	9.0
1980 Draft + Bureau (1)	177,972,832.	23.4

(1) plus costs of secretariat for vice-Presidents and college of quaestors.

T A B L E 3GROWTH OF COUNCIL'S ESTABLISHMENT PLAN

	PERMANENT	TEMPORARY	TOTAL
1976	1495	6	1501
1977	1502	6	1508
1978	1511	6	1517
1979	1541	6	1547
1980 Draft	1593	6	1599

T A B L E 4GROWTH OF COMMISSION'S ESTABLISHMENT PLAN

	PERMANENT	TEMPORARY	TOTAL
1976	7810	173	7983
1979	8302	278	8580
1980 Draft	8436	319	8755

T A B L E 5GROWTH OF COUNCIL'S EXPENDITURE

1974 Expenditure	34,784,706.22
1975 "	45,741,009.96
1976 "	44,615,817.2
1977 "	50,390,625.8
1978 "	68,188,936.34
1979 Budget	86,208,300
1980 Draft Budget	88,647,849

Reflections of your Rapporteur concerning the effects on Parliament's Budget of the necessity of working in all the working languages of the Community and of the absence of a single site for the institution

1. Your Rapporteur, after he had been appointed, sought the assistance of the Research and Documentation Directorate-General in establishing the extent of the burden on Parliament's budget resulting from two particular elements:
 - the effect of working in six languages; and
 - the effect of working principally in three cities.

2. The Rapporteur is grateful to the officials of Directorate-General V for the very comprehensive information provided.

Cost of the working languages

3. As regards the first problem, it emerges that the cost of working in six languages represents the major cost element for the budget of Parliament. This can be readily understood in the light of the following considerations.

4. The obligation to translate all documents in all languages (all session documents and all committee documents) involves a large number of translating and secretarial staff which in turn requires extra expenditure on office space and rent, etc. These documents have then to be typed, reproduced, stapled together, distributed and/or stocked.

5. Furthermore, at each meeting of Parliamentary bodies interpretation facilities have to be made available involving interpreting staff, and considerable technical equipment.

6. Extra staff are also necessary for each Directorate-General so that the range of languages is covered for all working purposes (e.g. archives, mail department, committee and research work).

7. It is estimated that the total number of staff whose employment is attributable to this factor is 1,016 or 53% of the 1979 establishment plan. In terms of expenditure based on 1978 figures, it is possible to attribute to this factor some 33.4 mEUA, or 39% of the total expenditure of the Institution.

8. Your rapporteur believes that the vast bulk of this expenditure is inevitable. Parliamentarians must be able to work in their own languages; and the Community must not in any way seem to discourage the use of Community languages which contribute to the variety which is part of Europe's heritage.

9. However, he would point out that with the accession of Greece, Portugal and Spain in the early 1980s, the number of language combinations will increase from 36 to 81. Although expenditure and the staff complement should not increase by this ratio, there will, undoubtedly, be a greater than proportionate increase. This will pose immense technical problems. There may in any case be some difficulty in finding the necessary numbers of translators and interpreters to cover all possible combinations. There is also the problem of the necessary technical equipment with the increase in the number of interpreting booths and the extra space required for each booth.

10. Your rapporteur believes that the Heads of Administration of all the institutions should meet to examine ways of facilitating the work of the institutions in the face of these difficulties.

Absence of a single working place

11. The second element (Parliament's obligation to work in three centres) is, at least in theory, avoidable. A policy of concentration requires a political decision by the Parliament.

12. As regards the scale of the problem, it has been estimated that some 184 (9.5%) posts are directly attributable to the fact that Parliament operates at more than one site. A further 92 (5%) staff are employed for the management of buildings. In terms of appropriations the operation of three centres cost approximately 9.8 mEUA in 1978 or 11.6% of total expenditure. Rent of buildings in three places and accessory costs amounted to a further 7.3 mEUA or 8.7% of the 1978 budget.

13. An important item in this expenditure is the transporting of personnel and documentation between these three working places. Considerable numbers of staff spend up to 200 working days per year on missions, with appropriate travel expenses and daily allowances, in addition to their salary.

Apart from the direct extra costs, the costs in terms of loss of efficiency and effectiveness are also very considerable. Officials who have to attend meetings as frequently as twice a week in Brussels are required to return to Luxembourg to continue their ordinary work between these meetings. The loss in travelling time alone could amount to as much as four half-days in a week.

14. The absence of a decision on a permanent site is a major element in the reluctance of the institutions to acquire their own buildings - hence the massive and rapidly rising annual rent bill.

15. The Court of Auditors has examined the accommodation policy of the institutions recently in a special report¹. This report found serious differences in rent costs per staff unit and per square metre between the Institutions. A sustained effort of coordination is, therefore, required.

16. The absence of a decision on the site also poses severe problems of office space. The European Parliament, because of the rapid growth in its establishment plan, is not able to provide adequate accommodation for all its staff even with the new provision of buildings in the three working places. It is now clear that sufficient offices will not be available in 1980, or indeed in the foreseeable future.

Comparison of expenditure with national parliaments

17. Your rapporteur has asked Directorate-General V ('Research and Documentation') for an assessment of the costs of running the European Parliament as compared with those of national parliaments. Within the short deadlines imposed on it Directorate-General V has submitted to your rapporteur some information on the structure of the Member States' parliaments' budgets in comparison with the corresponding chapters of the European Parliament's budget. This could only be done to the extent to which the details were accessible in the budgetary documents and to which they were not covered by confidentiality. Furthermore, this information had to be examined carefully in order to correlate it correctly to the functionally corresponding units of the European Parliament itself. Your rapporteur hopes that the Directorate-General will continue its studies so that he can make an early report, the findings of which will be of general assistance to the Committee on Budgets in its deliberations on matters relating to the budget of Parliament during 1980. He hopes that the authorities of national parliaments will do their utmost to assist in these enquiries which can only facilitate cooperation between the Parliamentary institutions of the Community.

(1) OJ No. C221 , 3.9.1979.

Recruitment policy in the institutions

1. For several years Parliament has expressed its concern at the failure of the institutions to agree upon a common recruitment policy. Previous rapporteurs (Lord Bruce of Donington, Mr Michael Shaw and Mr Martin Bangemann) proposed the creation of either a common recruitment agency or at least the harmonisation of recruitment procedures between the institutions.

2. The present situation is highly unsatisfactory for a number of reasons:

(i) The procedures are cumbersome. As the Greffier of the Court of Justice informed the Budgets Committee, the recruitment of an official can take as long as nine months because of the procedures laid down in the Staff Regulations. Indeed, in some senses this may be an optimistic estimate, because it presupposes the existence of valid external reserve lists following the organisation of external competitions.

The organisation of these competitions can take months or years depending on the number of candidates who present themselves.

(ii) The procedures are expensive. The cost of organizing an external competition is immense in terms of man hours involved and reimbursement of travel expenses to candidates etc. When a general competition for administrators of a particular language is organised, as many as 3,000 candidates may apply. Of these, perhaps 1,000 will sit exams in one or two places (with their travel costs to these places financed by the Community). One hundred will then be summoned to interview (again with their travelling costs covered). All the members of the jury will be on mission during this period and will have to have board and lodging found.

There have been cases where external competitions have been organised for just one post. The organisation of one external competition for one post can amount to as much as 30,000 EUA.

(iii) There is a certain absence of professionalism in the way that the institutions approach recruitment. The selection boards are normally composed (certainly for the smaller institutions) of representatives from

different directorates-general. These representatives are full-time officials (e.g. committee secretaries or research staff etc.) who are thus distracted from their ordinary working commitments for as much as months at a time.

Whilst they may bring to the task of selecting candidates many qualities, it is unlikely, given the practice within the institutions, that they will have any particular management skills enabling them to assess the suitability of candidates.

This lack of professionalism results in the tests being set by the different institutions varying very widely. Candidates who fare well in examinations for one institution quite frequently fail completely in competitions for another.

(iv) Hopes are raised unfairly. The management of reserve lists raises many difficulties. Vast external competitions are organised with thousands of candidates when the number of posts available is extremely small. Reserve lists are frequently much longer than will be required by the institution over a very long period of time. Candidates on the list may imagine that they have automatic right to a post within the institution.

The lists should be kept as small as possible and the criteria for eligibility should be much more tightly drawn up.

(v) The publicity for posts in the institutions seems to be organised in a haphazard fashion. This, to a certain extent, is reflected in the results as regards the number of candidates coming from different Member States.

Recently, a competition was organised in one of the institutions for posts at a clerical level, with in one country, a single advertisement being placed on one day in a newspaper which usually draws its readership from quite other professional categories. The consequence was that the number of applicants from that Member State was one-twentieth of the number of candidates coming from a different Member State of approximately the same size.

3. These difficulties could be overcome to a certain extent by the organisation of a common recruitment agency independent of but serving all the Community institutions. If this agency was staffed with individuals possessing a high degree of managerial skill and with a knowledge of the labour markets in the different Member States, it would be possible for them to organise the appropriate competitions drawing up the common reserve lists which could be used by the institutions according to their needs.

4. Occasionally the institutions would have specific needs but given that most of the recruitment takes place in the lowest grades of each category, the needs of the institutions are not in practice very different.

The management of these lists could be entrusted to this recruitment agency which would prevent unfairness as to the distribution of the most successful competitors between the institutions.

5. The organization of the tests by a professional body would relieve permanent officials in the different departments of the institutions from the burden of participating at every stage of these external competitions. It would also be possible to increase the level of professionalism in the way these tests are organized.

6. Your rapporteur notes that his colleague, the rapporteur for the 1980 budget of the Commission, has proposed freezing recruitment costs of the Commission until it produces proposals for the creation of the common recruitment agency. Your rapporteur supports this initiative and recommends that Parliament seeks the cooperation of all the institutions in the drawing up of this proposal.

Reflections of the rapporteur on the problems of career development within the institutions

1. All the institutions of the Community at present suffer from an absence of mobility both between functions and between grades. This produces an unsatisfactory rigidity in administrative structures. It damages morale and sets in motion pressure for the increasingly expensive upgrading of posts.
2. The report by Mr Spierenburg's Committee on the internal administration of the Commission repeats criticisms which have been frequently expressed by Parliament concerning the absence of a comprehensive career development policy in the institutions.
3. However, the Commission is more imaginative than the other institutions in its approach to these problems. It is the only institution which has a planned mobility policy under which all junior 'A' grade officials (A 7/6) are moved, either within their directorate-general or between their directorates-general, at least once every three years. This mirrors the practice in most Member States' administrations. However, it is to be regretted that this policy is restricted only to the junior administrative grades.

Your rapporteur believes that the reasoning justifying this mobility applies a fortiori to senior administrative grades (although perhaps senior administrators should be allowed a five year rather than a three year period).

4. In the European Parliament there is no planned mobility policy and there is no career counselling service. Such a service is particularly necessary in view of the need to plan career developments in an institution which will soon number amongst its officials 2,500 individuals.
5. The arrangement governing promotions in the institutions are such as to encourage immobility and rigidity, at least in the 'A' grades. Directors-general have a natural tendency to reserve promotion possibilities for officials who have served at length within the departments. Therefore, a prerequisite for a mobility policy must be a rationalisation of promotion arrangements.

6. The Spierenburg Committee recommends a more positive link between promotion and mobility, by which promotion may be contingent upon readiness to change functions. As regards promotions in the administrative grades, your rapporteur believes that promotions should be linked not merely with an incentive to mobility but also with the readiness of officials to improve qualifications, particularly as regards the development of management skills. These skills cannot be acquired on the basis of the short managerial courses which are currently available. Opportunity for a more systematic managerial training, using the facilities of the best business schools, should be offered: this is one area where increased expenditure may be justified.

7. A second kind of immobility arises from the existence of career blockages where no possibilities of promotion exist for long serving officials.

In contrast with the situation in the 'A' grades where mobility is encouraged by the promotion arrangements, these blockages, which encourage an excessive turnover, exist in the last echelon of certain career brackets and particularly at the last echelon in the top grade of categories 'D', 'C' and 'B'.

8. Access to superior categories at the 'B', 'C' and 'D' levels is difficult because of the frequency of direct recruitment from the outside and because of the excessively strict segregation of functions between the different categories. For example, in the European Parliament, the secretarial function is limited to the 'C' category, except in the case of secretaries of directors or directors-general. Therefore, a secretary, no matter how many years she may have served in the institution, no matter how long she may have held a position of C 1/8, cannot enter the 'B' category or enjoy any promotion prospects unless she is prepared to change her job.

This applies equally to ushers and drivers in the 'D' grade and to administrative assistants in the 'B' grade.

9. This obligation upon an individual at the non-administrative grades completely to change his function in order to improve his career prospects means, at its worst, that services may lose their best elements because the individuals concerned are faced with the awkward choice of continuing with their current job and having no promotion prospects or of leaving the service, and taking on some other function for which they may indeed be less well suited.

10. Your rapporteur agrees with the point of view expressed in the memorandum of the Staff Committee (PE 59.419/Annex) that these career blockages should be overcome. However, your rapporteur feels that it would be inappropriate to deal with the problems of individual long-serving members of staff by structural changes or by the creation of posts which would have the effect of permanently upgrading posts after the retirement of the individual official concerned.

11. Therefore, he would suggest the general extension of the principle of allowing ad personam promotions, subject to the strict application of objective criteria, and with due regard to the budgetary impact of such promotions. At present the Secretary-General makes such proposals for officials of more than sixty years of age and with at least fifteen years service within the institution. These should be regarded as the minimum conditions. The merit of the officials should also be taken into account. The according of these ad personam promotions should be extended to all grades where career blockages arise.

12. For the particular problem of secretaries blocked at the top step of the 'C' grade, your rapporteur proposes the opening up of the 'B' grade along lines similar to those in operation at the Commission. In his view, two new careers, the 'B' secretarial (BS) and 'B' technical (BT) should be added whereby existing 'C' grade secretaries and clerks could be promoted to the 'B' grade without changing their jobs. This operation should be conducted in such a way as to keep additional costs to a minimum and to prevent passage from the BS or BT categories to the ordinary 'B' grades of administrative assistants, to which access should be limited by general competition.

13. Your rapporteur also believes that parallel openings should be made for drivers and ushers in the 'C' grade: many of these officials carrying out important responsibilities which are not sufficiently recognised under the existing arrangements.

14. In general, your rapporteur believes that it is important that a brisk - but not excessive - turnover of staff should occur: new blood should be frequently infused. To this end the restrictive application by all the institutions of Article 29 of the Staff Regulations, which discourages the transfers between institutions, should be lifted. Your rapporteur sees no reason why officials of the Commission should not have a reasonable chance of access to jobs within the European Parliament and vice versa. Both institutions would benefit from the influx of officials with experience in other institutions.

Similarly, exchanges between officials of the institutions and officials of national administrations should be encouraged to increase the wealth of experience which the institutions may tap. This would also increase awareness of Community practice in the national administrations.

15. An active policy of encouragement to early retirement is particularly necessary in the European institutions where, because recruitment has been uneven, a malformed career pyramid has emerged which distorts career development. As Mr Spierenburg's Committee has pointed out, this problem will be particularly acute over the years immediately ahead until the generation recruited in the initial years of the existence of the institutions reaches retirement age. Your rapporteur therefore believes that the conclusions of the report drawn up by Mr Lega⁽¹⁾ on the staff regulations concerning early retirement should be implemented as quickly as possible.

(1) PE 59.647

TABLE OF DECISIONS OF COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS AT ITS MEETING OF 19 OCTOBER 1979

SUBJECT	AMENDMENT No.	DECISION OF COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS
1. Secretariat of the Quaestors	PE 59.994/55	Bureau's proposal (1 A5/4, 1 A7/6, 5 B3/2, 6 C3/2) not approved (no votes for): Rapporteur's proposal (1 A5/4, 5 B3/2) approved (22:8:1) Collegial assistance. Equally, posts to be taken from 1980 reserve (30 for, unanimous).
2. Secretariat of Vice-Presidents	PE 59.994/56	Bureau's proposal (2 A3, 12 B3/2, 12 C3/2T) not approved (no votes for): Second proposal (12 C3/2) not approved (10:23:0) Rapporteur's proposal (6 C3/2) permanent, for collegial assistance, approved 24:5:0. Equally, posts to be taken from 1980 reserve (30 for, unanimous)
3. Secretariat of political groups	PE 59.994/57	Bureau's proposal: 123 temporary posts: not approved (1 vote for) Second proposal: 123 temporary unfrozen, but no further requests for 1981: not approved (11:18:1) Third proposal: 123 temporary but 50% frozen: approved (26:7:0) Procedure for unfreezing: common agreement Bureau/Committee on Budgets: agreed, 27 votes for, unanimously
4. President's office	PE 59.994/58	Bureau proposal (1 A1 temporary - ad personam - 1 A3, temporary, 1 B3 and 1 C1 permanent) approved 20:10:0
5. General secretariat	PE 59.994/58	Bureau proposal (159 posts) no votes for. Rapporteur's proposal: 113 temporary posts strictly linked to Greek accession: approved 19:7:6. 112 posts derived on the basis of Secretary-General's report (PE 59.419/BUR)
6. Upgradings of posts	PE 59.994/58	Bureau proposal approved unanimously (30 for): 1 A5/4 to A3, 1 B3/2 to B1, 3 B5/4 to B 3/2, 2 C1 to B5/4, 1 C3/2 to C1.
7. Political Affairs Committee secretariat	378/84	Proposed by Mr Colombo and Political Affairs Committee to create 3 posts (1 A5/4, 1 A7/6, 1 B5/4). Not approved by 13:17:3.
8. Budgetary Control Committee Secretariat	378/85	Proposed by Mr Aigner and Budgetary Control Committee to create 8 posts (1 A5/4, 4 A7/6, 1 B5/4, 2 C3/2). Not approved by 11:17:2.

SUBJECT	AMENDMENT No.	DECISION OF COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS
9. 188 posts created in 1980 draft	-	The Committee on Budgets decided unanimously, by 28 votes, that the 188 posts created in the 1980 draft budget should be considered as a general, non-allocated reserve, should still be frozen, to be unfrozen by common agreement Bureau/Budgets Committee.
10. Item 1000: Members' salaries	-	Preliminary draft tabled by Mr Simonnet. Place a token entry on the line for Members' salaries was adopted (23:2:4).
11. Chapter 100: Members' expenses	PE 59.994/2	Travel, secretarial allowances, following Bureau decision (+ 1,571,000) approved by 27 votes unanimously.
12. Item 3706: Political activities	PE 59.994/3	Increase in political activities, by groups, (+ 788,600) following Bureau proposal, approved by 23 votes, with 5 abstentions.
13. Title 2: Operating expenditure	PE 59.994/8	Increase in general operating expenditure (+ 1,832,750) following Bureau proposal, approved by 20 votes, with 4 abstentions.
14. Item 2720: Information, publicity, etc.	Doc. 378/36	Increase in information expenditure (+ 300,000) proposed by Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport: favourable opinion by 14:12:1.
15. Item 2991: Opinion multipliers	Doc. 378/37	Increase (+ 200,000) for new activity, proposed by Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport: favourable opinion by 19:4:3 as regards appropriations only.

DRAFT AMENDMENT

BUDGET

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

31 OCTOBER 1979...

Doc. 37B. 327



DRAFT
GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1980

DRAFT AMENDMENT No. 327.

tabled by Mr JACKSON, on behalf of the Committee on Budgets

SECTION I - PARLIAMENT

PAYMENTS

Title 1 : Expenditure relating to persons working with the Institution
Chapter 10 : Members of the Institution

A - Expenditure

Increase expenditure under this chapter by 10,825,000 EUA, broken down as shown below.

B - Compensation

Decrease by 9,250,000 EUA the appropriation against Article 1000: 'Reserve'.

C - Revenue

Increase revenue by 1,571,000 EUA.

COMMITMENTS

-

Schedule

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REMARKS

-

Justification

The appropriation in question represents the financial implications of the decisions taken by the responsible bodies of Parliament concerning Members' travel, subsistence and secretarial allowances, and of the decisions taken by the Bureau in connection with the adaptation of Parliament's estimates for 1980.

The appropriation is broken down within Chapter 10 as follows:

Item 1004	- travel and subsistence allowances	+ 1,500,000 EUA
Article 105	- language courses	+ 71,000 EUA
Article 106	- secretarial expenses	+ 8,854,000 EUA
Article 109	- provisional appropriations for changes in the expenses and allowances	+ 400,000 EUA


The Committee on Budgets supported this putting into effect of the Bureau's decision, by 27 votes, unanimously.

DRAFT AMENDMENT

BUDGET

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

31 . OCTOBER . 1979 . .

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DRAFT
GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR . 1980

DRAFT AMENDMENT No. . 328.

tabled by Mr JACKSON, on behalf of the Committee on Budgets

SECTION I - PARLIAMENT

PAYMENTS

Title 3 : Expenditure resulting from the institution carrying out special functions
Chapter 37 : Expenditure relating to certain institutions and bodies
Article 370 : Expenditure relating to the European Parliament
Item 3706 : Other political activities

A - Expenditure

Increase the appropriation by 788,600 EUA (from 736,500 to 1,525.100 EUA)

B - Compensation

-

C - Revenue

Increase revenue by the same amount

COMMITMENTS

-

REMARKS

-

Justification

This increase is a result of the decisions taken by the parliamentary bodies concerning other political activities by the groups, and takes account principally of the number of elected Members.

The Committee on Budgets supported the proposal by 23 votes, with 5 abstentions.

DRAFT AMENDMENT

BUDGET

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

31 OCTOBER 1979...

Doc. 378/ 329



DRAFT
GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1980

DRAFT AMENDMENT No. 329..

tabled by Mr JACKSON, on behalf of the Committee on Budgets

SECTION I - PARLIAMENT

PAYMENTS

Title 2 - Buildings, equipment and miscellaneous operating
expenditure

A - Expenditure

Increase expenditure by 1,832,750 EUA

B - Compensation

-

C - Revenue

Increase revenue by the same amount

COMMITMENTS

-

Justification

The Committee on Budgets considered by 20 votes, with 4 abstentions, that, in view of the increase in activities, it is essential to update the expenditure estimates drawn up in May on the operational headings listed below, on the basis of the Secretary-General's report (PE 59.419/BUR).

Breakdown of posts

Item 2220 - Techn. inst. (printing 225,000)	+	405,500	EUA
Item 2221 - Techn. inst. - renewals	+	60,000	EUA
Item 2223 - Techn. inst. - maintenance	+	125,000	EUA
Item 2231 - Transport equip. - renewals	+	15,000	EUA
Item 2233 - Transport equip. - maintenance	+	15,000	EUA
Item 2250 - Library	+	10,000	EUA
Item 2253 - Subs. to news agencies	+	40,000	EUA
Art. 230 - Stationery	+	220,000	EUA
Item 2311 - Telephone, telex, etc.	+	100,000	EUA
Art. 270 - Official Journal	+	75,000	EUA
Item 2710 - Publications	+	100,000	EUA
Item 2720 - Information (Audio-visual)	+	300,000	EUA
Item 2991 - Visits (seminars)	+	200,000	EUA

DRAFT AMENDMENT

BUDGET

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

31 OCTOBER 1979

Doc. 378 /330



DRAFT
GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1980

DRAFT AMENDMENT No. 330.

tabled by Mr JACKSON, on behalf of the Committee on Budgets

SECTION I - PARLIAMENT

Complete the establishment plan as follows:

1 A 5/4 - 5 C 3/2 (secretariat of the Quaestors)

These posts to be taken from the general reserve of 188 posts created in the 1980 draft budget of Parliament

A - Expenditure

-

B - Compensator.

-

C - Revenue

Unchanged

COMMITMENTS

-

REMARKS

Unchanged

Justification

At its meeting of 9 October 1979, the Bureau of the European Parliament requested the Committee on Budgets to draw up an amendment to create 13 posts (1 A5/4, 1 A 7/6, 5 B3/2 and 6 C3/2 to provide assistance for the Quaestors.

The European Parliament has recently increased the number of Quaestors and their functions would also be extended.

The Committee on Budgets decided not to approve the Bureau's requests for all of these extra posts (0 votes in favour): instead, it instructed its rapporteur, by 22 votes to 8 with 1 abstention to table an amendment creating 1 A 5/4 and 5 C 3/2 posts for the secretariat of the Quaestors. The secretarial facility would be made available on a collegial basis.

The Committee on Budgets considered that, in the light of the views expressed by members of the Quaestors, it would be inappropriate to seek a major increase in the secretariat on a permanent basis.

It was agreed unanimously, 30 votes for, that the extra posts for the Quaestors would be taken from the general reserve of 188 posts, created in the 1980 draft budget. The proposals for the Quaestors would therefore not give rise to extra expenditure.

DRAFT AMENDMENT

BUDGET

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

31 OCTOBER 1979...

Doc. 378/ 331



DRAFT
GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1980

DRAFT AMENDMENT No. 331.

tabled by Mr JACKSON, on behalf of the Committee on Budgets

SECTION I - PARLIAMENT

Complete the establishment plan as follows:

6 C 3/2 temporary (at C 2) (to assist the Vice-Presidents)

These posts to be taken from the general reserve of 188 posts created in the 1980 draft budget

A - Expenditure

Unchanged

B - Compensation

-

C - Revenue

Unchanged

COMMITMENTS

-

REMARKS

-

Justification

At its meeting of 9 October 1979, the Bureau of the European Parliament requested the Committee on Budgets to draw up an amendment to create 2 permanent A 3 posts and 12 B 3/2 temporary posts and 12 C 3/2 temporary posts to provide for the assistance of the Vice-Presidents.


This proposal was not accepted by the Committee on Budgets (0 votes for). A second proposal to create 12 C 3/2 posts was rejected by 23 votes to 10 with no abstentions.

By 24 votes to 5 with no abstentions your rapporteur was instructed to table an amendment creating 6 C 3/2 permanent posts to provide collegial assistance for the Vice Presidents. It was felt that it would be inappropriate to extend the secretariat further given that there had been no decision as regards the delegation of presidential responsibilities to the Vice-Presidents.

It was decided, unanimously, by 30 votes, that these posts should be taken from the general reserve of 188 posts created in the 1980 draft budget.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

31 . OCTOBER . 1979 .

Doc. 378.332 DRAFT
GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1980

DRAFT AMENDMENT No. 332..

tabled by Mr JACKSON, on behalf of the Committee on Budgets

SECTION I - PARLIAMENT

Complete the establishment plan as follows:123 temporary posts in the secretariat of the political groups
broken down as follows:1 A 2 - 3 A 3 - 18 A 5/4 of which 5 A 4 and 13 A 5 - 28 A 6/7
of which 6 A 6 and 22 A 7 (50 A grade posts in all)
4 B 1 - 4 B 2 - 2 B 3 (10 B grade posts in all)
11 C 1 - 51 C 3/2 of which 14 C 2 and 37 C 3 - 1 C 4 (63 C grade
posts in all)

The following of these posts are frozen:

1 A 3, 3 A 4, 6 A 5, 3 A 6, 12 A 7;
2 B 1, B 2, 1 B 3;
4 C 1, 8 C 2, 19 C 3, 1 C 4Release of the posts from this reserve will be decided jointly by the
Bureau and the Committee on BudgetsA - ExpenditureIncrease the expenditure relating to the creation of the above posts
and the resulting operational expenditure by 1,875,750 EUA.B - Compensation

-

C - RevenueIncrease revenue by 1,558,000 EUA

COMMITMENTS

-

REMARKS

50% of these posts (61, as shown above) are frozen. Release of the posts from
this reserve will be decided jointly by the Bureau and the COBU.

Justification

At its meeting of 9 October 1979, the Bureau of the European Parliament asked the Committee on Budgets to table an amendment creating 123 extra temporary posts for the staff of the political groups.

Your rapporteur recognises that an increase in the size of the political groups may well be necessary to provide, for example, for the manning of each committee by a representative from the political groups' secretariat.

However, such a major increase for 1980, as proposed by the Bureau, poses problems of the structure of the institution which should not be prejudged prior to the examination of those structures following the report drawn up by the working party, set up by the Bureau.

In particular, the question of how MEPs are to be served in carrying out their Parliamentary responsibilities has to be examined. A number of facilities exist - their personal research assistants, the secretariats of the political groups, the secretariats of the committees and Parliament's research staff in Directorate-General V. It is in the interests of the institution and of Members themselves that unnecessary expense and duplication in the service of Members of Parliament is avoided.

Therefore the COBU was not able to agree (one vote in favour) on the Bureau's proposal in its entirety. A further proposal, creating the 123 posts sought, unblocked, but with a commitment that the groups would not seek extra posts in 1981, was rejected by 18 votes to 11 with 1 abstention.

The COFJ then instructed (by 26 votes to 7 with no abstentions) your rapporteur to table an amendment, creating 123 posts, 50% of them to be frozen until unfrozen by a common agreement between the Bureau and the COBU.

As regards the freezing of these posts, the breakdown is as follows:

Posts immediately available (62):

1 A 2, 2 A 3, 2 A 4, 8 A 5, 2 A 6, 10 A 7;
2 B 1, 4 B 2, 7 C 1, 6 C 2, 18 C 3

(61):

1 A 3, 3 A 4, 6 A 5, 3 A 6, 12 A 7;
2 B 1, 1 B 2, 1 B 3; 4 C 1, 8 C 2, 19 C 3; 1 C 4

As regards the procedure for unfreezing, Rules 49 and 50 of the Rules of Procedure clearly indicate that, as regards decisions relating to the list of posts and the budget of Parliament, the Bureau and the Committee on Budgets have distinct responsibilities - therefore a common agreement should be sought.

If the Committee on Budgets were not to be associated with the unfreezing of appropriations, this would represent a derogation from normal procedures which apply for the authorisation of appropriations and the making of those appropriations operational for every other institution and body. Furthermore, every Community institution is expected to provide a full justification and job description for every post sought.

It would be an anomaly if an exception were to be made for the decisions of the European Parliament.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

EXPENDITURE FOR NEW POSTS

(in EUA)

	159 posts (6 months)	Vice-Pres. 26 posts (6 months)	Quaestors 13 posts (6 months)	Sub-total Vice-Pres.+ Quaestors	Private Office 4 posts (6 months)	Groups 123 posts (9 months)	TOTAL
1100	1,849,800	341,100	149,900	(491,000)	86,700	2,460,600	4,888,100
1101	155,500	28,700	12,600	(41,300)	7,300	206,700	410,800
1102	273,800	50,500	22,200	(72,700)	12,900	364,200	723,600
1130	55,500	10,300	4,500	(14,800)	2,600	73,900	146,800
1131	18,500	3,500	1,500	(5,000)	900	24,600	49,000
119	152,500	28,200	12,400	(40,600)	7,200	160,000	360,300
120	80,000	13,000	6,500	(19,500)	2,000	61,500	163,000
1221	320,000	52,000	26,000	(78,000)	8,000	246,000	652,000
1231	200,000	31,200	15,600	(46,800)	4,800	154,000	405,600
Tot. exp.	<u>3,105,600</u>	<u>558,500</u>	<u>251,200</u>	<u>(809,700)</u>	<u>132,400</u>	<u>3,751,500</u>	<u>7,799,200</u>
40	350,400	64,700	28,300	(93,000)	16,500	458,600	918,500
41	135,200	24,900	10,900	(35,800)	6,400	176,900	354,300
Tot. rev.	<u>485,600</u>	<u>89,600</u>	<u>39,200</u>	<u>(128,800)</u>	<u>22,900</u>	<u>635,500</u>	<u>1,272,800</u>

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

31 .OCTOBER .1979...

Doc. 378/333



DRAFT
GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR .1980

DRAFT AMENDMENT No. 333.

tabled by Mr JACKSON, on behalf of the Committee on Budgets

SECTION I - PARLIAMENT

I. Complete the establishment plan as follows:

1 A 1 temporary ad personam - 1 A 3 temporary - 1 B 3 - 1 C 1
(President's Private Office)

II. 113 temporary posts in the Secretariat

1 A 3, 2 A 7/6, 1 LA 3, 11 LA 5/4 revisers, 11 LA 5/4 principal translators,
11 LA 7/5 translators, 5 LA 5/4 principal interpreters, 5 LA 7/6 interpreters,
6 B 5/4, 3 C 1, 33 C 3/2, 15 C 5/4, 3 D 3/2

III. Convert the following posts:

1 A 5/4 to A 3, 1 B 3/2 to B 1, 3 B 5/4 to B 3/2, 2 C 1 to B 5/4

These posts are assigned as indicated in Doc. PE 59.419/BUR

A - Expenditure

The overall increase is 2,888,600 EUA, (equivalent to 50% of the required amount for the payment of salaries, for six months)

B - Compensation

-

C - Revenue

Increase revenue by 386,400 EUA

COMMITMENTS

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REMARKS

The extra temporary posts in the establishment plan of the Secretariat are intended to cover the recruitment needs of Greek officials and linguists, and others, whose recruitment has been necessitated as a result of the accession of Greece to the Community on 1 January 1981.

Justification

At its meeting of 9 October 1979, the Bureau of the European Parliament asked the Committee on Budgets to table an amendment to the draft budget for 1980 to add 159 posts to the general secretariat to cope with extra tasks resulting from the direct election of the European Parliament by universal suffrage and from the enlargement of the Community, with the accession of Greece, envisaged for 1981.

However, this request for posts should be seen in the context of the increases already voted in previous years, and the 213 posts added to the establishment plan in the estimates for 1980 which were drawn up by Council on 11 September.

Your rapporteur believes that in view of (a) the need for restraint, (b) the fact that Parliament's needs cannot yet be established, (c) the absence of office space, (d) the large number of vacant posts currently in existence, (e) the need to leave a certain number of places open for Greek non-linguistic officials and (f) the delays inevitably involved in the current recruitment procedures, it would be appropriate for the Committee on Budgets to table an amendment creating all these posts in the draft budget.

The Bureau's original proposal was not supported by the committee (no votes in favour). However, the committee instructed the rapporteur, by 19 votes to 7 with 6 abstentions, to table an amendment adding 113 temporary posts to the establishment plan linked directly with Greek accession to the Community. These posts are divided up as between the different Directorates-General as follows (on the basis of the Secretary-General's Report: PE 59.419/LUR):

- DG I : Sessional and General Services: 2 A 7/6, 3 B 5/4, 9 C 1, 29 C 3/2, 15 C 5/4, 3 D 3/2, 1 LA 3, 22 LA 5/4, 11 LA 7/6 = 95
- DG II : Committees and Inter-Parliamentary Delegations: 0
- DG III : Information, Press and Public Relations: 1 A 3, 1 B 5/4, 1 C 3/2 = 3
- DG IV : Administration, Personnel and Finance: 5 LA 5/4, 5 LA 7/6, 2 B 5/4, 3 C 3/2 = 15
- DG V : Research and Documentation: 0

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

EXPENDITURE FOR NEW POSTS

(in EUA)

	113 temporary posts (6 months)	Private Office 4 posts (6 months)	TOTAL
1100	1,498,900	86,700	1,585,600
1101	125,900	7,300	133,200
1102	221,900	12,900	234,800
1130	45,500	2,600	47,600
1131	15,000	900	15,900
119	124,000	7,200	131,200
1141	113,000		113,000
120	50,000	2,000	52,000
1221	113,000	8,000	121,000
1231	56,500	4,800	61,300
1241	226,000		226,000
2200	86,000		86,000
2203	16,000		16,000
2210	65,000		65,000
Total exp.	<u>2,756,200</u>	<u>132,400</u>	<u>2,888,600</u>
40	262,300	16,500	278,800
41	101,200	6,400	107,600
Total revenue	<u>363,500</u>	<u>22,900</u>	<u>386,400</u>

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

31 OCTOBER 1979

Doc. 378/340



DRAFT
GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1980

DRAFT AMENDMENT No. 340.

tabled by Mr Robert JACKSON, on behalf of the Committee on Budgets

SECTION I - PARLIAMENT

PAYMENTS

Title 1 : Expenditure relating to persons working with the institution
Chapter 10 : Members of the institution
Article 00 : Salaries, allowances and payments related to salaries
Item 1000 : Basic salaries

A - ExpenditureMake a token entry.B - Compensation

-

C - Revenue

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COMMITMENTS

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REMARKS

'This item is intended to finance the salaries of the members of the European Parliament which should be provided through the budget of that institution rather than from the budgets of the Member States, in conformity with the practice for members of other Community institutions.'

Justification

At its meeting of 19 October 1979 the Committee on Budgets approved the principle, contained in a preliminary draft amendment drawn up by Mr Simonnet, to place a token entry on the line for members' salaries (Item 1000). The rapporteur was instructed by 23 votes to 2 with 4 abstentions to table an amendment to this effect. The creation of the appropriate budgetary context for the payment of members' salaries by the European Parliament is appropriate in view of the European vocation of European members.

The present ad hoc arrangements with members' salaries being paid for from national budgets is inappropriate and gives rise to inequalities.

This proposal should therefore be considered as the first step towards the effective including of these remunerations within Section I of the general budget of the Community.

