

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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DOCUMENT 37/75

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

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submitted by

Mr BERSANI on behalf of the Christian-Democratic Group
Mr HOUGARDY on behalf of the Liberal and Allies Group
Lord REAY on behalf of the European Conservative Group
Mr COINTAT on behalf of the Group of European
Progressive Democrats

with request for debate by urgent procedure pursuant
to Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure

on the/situation in Portugal.

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The European Parliament,

- recalling that the European Community has always closed the doors to any prospects of accession by the previous authoritarian régime in Portugal,
 - having noted with satisfaction - in its capacity as representative of the peoples of Europe - the change in the political situation in Portugal which it considers should guarantee the Portuguese people - after 50 years of dictatorship - the full benefit of democratic rights and should provide in addition real opportunities for economic and social cooperation with the EEC, and may even offer positive prospects for the process of decolonisation under the Lomé Convention,
1. Notes with concern certain negative features in the evolution of democracy in Portugal to which attention has repeatedly been drawn by Portuguese democratic circles;
 2. Therefore appeals urgently to all democrats and to the competent authorities in Portugal to ensure that at the forthcoming elections to the Constituent Assembly the entire population is allowed to participate freely, all citizens are assured fundamental democratic rights and the will of the people is respected;
 3. Stresses the influence which a positive democratic evolution in Portugal, based on free consultation of the people, might have on developments in European cooperation and even on the process of détente in Europe;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission of the European Communities.