

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1975-1976

10 June 1975

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION (*)

tabled by Mr Willi MULLER

on behalf of the Committee on Public Health and the Environment

With request for consideration by urgent procedure pursuant to Rule 14 of the
Rules of Procedure

on the acute danger of further pollution of the Rhine

1.2.1

(*) The motion for a resolution was unanimously adopted at the meeting of 26 May 1975.
Present: Mr Della Briotta, Chairman; Mr Jakobsen, Vice-Chairman; Mr Willi Müller,
Draftsman; Mr Adams, Lord Bethell, Mr Brégégère, Mr Martens, Mr Meintz, Mr Ney, Mr
Noè, Mrs Orth, Mr Spicer, Mr Springorum, Mr Walkhoff (deputizing for Mr Schwabe).



The European Parliament,

- having regard to the article entitled 'Summer suffocation for the Rhine', which appeared in the German newspaper 'Die Welt' on 11 March 1975 (See Notice to Members - PE 40.172),
- having consulted Mr SCARASCIA MUGNOZZA, Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities at the meeting of the Committee on Public Health and the Environment of 21 April 1975,

1. Recalls its resolutions of 19 November 1970 on the preservation of inland waters, with particular regard to pollution of the Rhine¹ and 16 December 1971 on the pollution of rivers, in particular the Rhine²;
2. Is deeply disturbed by the constantly increasing pollution of the Rhine, which, with the rising temperature of the summer, could lead to a breakdown of the ecological balance in some parts of the Rhine in 1975;
3. Finds it totally unacceptable that negotiations between the Member States have so far produced no effective results because of failure to reach agreement on common action;
4. Therefore calls on the Commission to offer to act as intermediary between the three riparian states, France, Germany and the Netherlands, all members of the Community, with a view to achieving agreement on immediate, practical and coordinated measures to avert the impending disaster;
5. Urges the Parliaments of these three Member States to give their full support to the Commission in its role as intermediary so that the necessary measures can be brought into effect as soon as possible;
6. Further proposes that the possibility should be investigated of providing Community financial support for specific projects to assist the construction of purification plant and other suitable equipment at the most seriously threatened points of the Rhine;
7. Requests the Commission to intensify its participation in the work of the International Commission on the Protection of the Rhine against pollution;

¹OJ No. C 143, 3 December 1970, p.30

²OJ No. C 2, 11 January 1972, p.22

8. Requests its Committee on Public Health and the Environment, as the committee responsible, to keep the Commission's response to its requests and proposals under close review, and to report to it when appropriate;

9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission of the European Communities, and to the governments and parliaments of France, the German Federal Republic and the Netherlands.