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REPORT

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Economic
and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy

on the White Paper from the Commission of
the European Communities to the European Council
(Milan, 28-29 June 1985) on 'Completing the
Internal Market' (COM(85) 310 final -
Doc. C 2-63/85)

Rapporteur: Mr George PATTERSON

PE 101.919/fin.
Or. EN

By letter of 12 July 1985, the Commission of the European Communities requested the European Parliament to deliver an opinion on the White Paper from the Commission to the European Council on 'Completing the Internal Market'.

On 9 September 1985, the President of the European Parliament referred this White Paper to the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy as the committee responsible and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Citizens' Rights, the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment, the Committee on Transport, the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection and the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology for an opinion.

At its meeting of 25 September 1985, the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy appointed Mr PATTERSON rapporteur.

At its sitting of 15 November 1985, the European Parliament referred the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Mühlén on completing the internal market (Doc. B2-1044/85) pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure to the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy as the committee responsible and to the Political Affairs Committee and the Committee on Legal Affairs and Citizens' Rights for an opinion.

At its meeting of 25 - 28 November 1985, the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy decided not to draw up a separate report but to include this resolution in the report on the 'White Paper' on completing the internal market.

The Committee considered the draft report at its meetings of 24 September, 30 October and 27 November 1985.

At the last meeting, the committee decided by 10 votes to 3 to recommend to Parliament that it approve the Commission proposal without amendment.

The Committee then adopted the motion for a resolution as a whole by 10 votes to 3.

The following took part in the vote:

Mr SEAL (chairman), Mr von BISMARCK (vice-chairman), Mr P. BEAZLEY (vice-chairman), Mr PATTERSON (rapporteur), Mr BEUMER, Mr BONACCINI, Mr GAUTIER, Mr KILBY (deputizing for Mr Ferranti), Mr METTEN, Mr MÜHLEN (deputizing for Mr Franz), Mrs T. NIELSEN, Ms QUIN, Mr von WOGAU.

The opinion of the Committee on Transport is attached. The opinions of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection and the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology will be published separately.

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Citizens' Rights, the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment and the Political Affairs Committee have decided not to deliver an opinion.

The explanatory statement will be given orally during the plenary session.

The report was tabled on 2 December 1985.

The deadline for tabling amendments to this report will be indicated in the draft agenda for the part-session at which it will be debated.

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The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on the White Paper from the Commission of the European Communities to the European Council (Milan, 28 - 29 June 1985) on completing the Internal Market

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the White Paper from the Commission to the European Council (Milan 28 - 29 June 1985) on completing the Internal Market (COM(85) 310 fin.),
 - having been consulted by the Commission (Doc. C2-63/85),
 - having regard to its resolution of 13 June 1985 on consolidating the internal market¹,
 - having regard to the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Mühlen (Doc. B2-1044/85),
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy and the opinions of the Committee on Transport the Committee on the Environment, Health and Consumer Protection and the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology (Doc. A2-180/85),
1. Welcomes and approves the Commission's White Paper as a realistic programme for the achievement of a barrier-free internal market by 1992;
 2. Following the general endorsement of this programme and timetable by the Heads of State and Government at Milan, calls upon them to ensure that every specialized Council, every responsible minister and all affected national ministries, departments and services are instructed to fulfil their consequent obligations within the agreed timetable;

¹OJ No 175, 15.7.1985

3. Emphasizes that the White Paper provides an integrated programme, which must be implemented as a whole;
4. Appreciates that the White Paper must be seen in the context of wider economic and other Community policies: i.e. in the regional and social fields, for the development of the European Monetary System, a common transport policy, etc ... ;
5. Supports the undertaking by the governments of Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom to plan Council action within a 'troika' of Presidencies and welcomes the proposed continuation of this arrangement through a system of 'rolling troikas', until the internal market programme has been implemented;
6. Notes that decisions on implementing the White Paper cannot wait upon possible amendments to the Treaties, and therefore urges the Council to improve in any case its decision-taking procedures in this field, especially by the use of majority voting;
7. Requests the Commission to present an annual report in Parliament on the implementation of the White Paper; and hold bi-annual discussions on progress with Parliament's Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy;
8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission and national Parliaments.

ANNEX

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION (Doc. B2-1044/85)
tabled by Mr MÜHLEN
pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the consolidation of the Community.

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PE 101.919/fin./Ann.

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The European Parliament,

- A. aware of the urgent need to complete the work of economic integration and, following the enlargement of the Community, to give priority to efforts to consolidate the EEC,
 - B. whereas the work of Europeanization should proceed in a federalist spirit,
 - C. whereas these efforts towards integration must be pursued with the greatest possible efficiency,
1. Calls on the Commission to conduct a study defining, in the light of the experience of countries with a traditional federal structure, such as the United States of America and Switzerland, and of long-standing structures of economic union, such as the BLEU and BENELUX, the scope of such harmonizing measures as are needed for the creation of a uniform economic area, without running the risk of causing excessive red tape;
 2. Calls on the Commission to draw up a programme of priorities laying down a timescale for the implementation of these harmonizing measures, to ensure that efforts are not aimlessly dispersed and that the work of future economic integration, which must be guided by major principles, may proceed with the greatest possible efficiency;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the President of the Commission of the European Communities.

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT

Letter from the chairman to Mr SEAL, chairman of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy.

Luxembourg, 18 November 1985

Subject: Opinion of the Committee on Transport on the White Paper on completing the internal market (COM(85) 310 final)

Dear Mr Seal,

At its meeting of 28, 29 and 30 October 1985, the Committee on Transport considered the above Commission's document.

It noted, above all, that the White Paper on completing the internal market (COM(85) 310 final) of 14 June 1985 is not substantially different now to the previous documents on the same subject (COM(84) 305 final, COM(84) 556 final and COM(85) 19 final), which were the subject of a resolution adopted by the European Parliament on 13 June 1985 (Doc. A 2-50/85).

However, since the White Paper was submitted to the Milan European Council of 28-29 June without taking account of Parliament's suggestions, probably owing to lack of time, certain basic remarks concerning its content must be reiterated.

The committee therefore welcomes the initiative taken by the Commission to obtain Parliament's opinion and agreement on a programme of measures designed to remove intra-Community frontiers and achieve a single Community market by 1992.

In this connection, it approves most of the points concerning the transport sector and, in particular, the measures to reduce border checks and abolish quotas and other restrictions on the freedom to provide services in the transport sector.

however, the paper fails to refer to certain important measures which are essential not only to the common transport policy, but also to the establishment of market which should be as free and dynamic as possible.

Firstly, no reference is made to the establishment of a genuine Community policy in the transport sector, as called for in the Treaties and in the judgment recently delivered by the Court of Justice. The Commission's proposals, including those in documents other than the White Paper, make up only in part for the absence of an adequate structured plan to organize the sector at Community level. The Commission states, for instance, that the planning of infrastructures is not relevant to the internal market; however, what prospects can the market have if it remains inaccessible in many areas? The Commission continues to maintain that the Community's interests should be assessed in relation to individual infrastructures and the possibility of Community financing, but fails to recognize that it is of more general interest to develop transport networks throughout the Community. It is frustrating that agreements such as that of 1975 on the European road network (currently being revised) or that of 31 May 1985 on the European railway network are promoted and adopted outside the Community and that the Community institutions play a fairly minor role in such initiatives. To this should be added the fact that the programme of medium and long-term financing of infrastructures, which has been promised on several occasions, has not yet been introduced.

Secondly, the committee is surprised at the fact that no reference is made to social and safety policies in the transport sector. This involves not only the problem of driving time in motor transport, which the Commission, Council and Parliament have laboured over for some time, but also the more general problem of establishing higher safety standards for land, sea and air transport facilities in the Community. Safety must clearly be promoted, not ~~so~~ much in the interest of the citizen as a consumer, but as his right as a citizen of the Community. It is therefore essential that the Commission conclude, as soon as possible, the research work in this area called for by the memorandum on the European technological Community and express its decisions on the matter in legislative form.

As part of a new political initiative by the Community, support should be given to extensive cooperation in the transport sector, such as international companies involved in combined transport, in improving the transport of goods by rail or in establishing a European high-speed railway network as well as high common standards for trains.

Lastly, no reference is made to relations with third countries through which transit is necessary even in the case of intra-Community transport, such as Switzerland, Austria and Yugoslavia. It would be superficial to maintain that this type of problem does not affect the balance of the internal market. These countries are linked, though not to the same extent, to the Community's economic policies by the fact of their geographical position, to which the Commission does not seem to give due importance. A greater awareness of the territorial problems could only increase the effectiveness of the Community's economic policy in general and of the other Community policies.

Yours sincerely,

Georgios ANASTASSOPOULOS

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