

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

3 November 1982

DOCUMENT 1-812/82

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr BATTERSBY, Mr HABSBURG, Mr GONTIKAS,
Mr ISRAEL, Mr GEROKOSTOPOULOS, Mr BOURNIAS,
Mr PAPAEFSTRATIOU, Mrs LENZ, Mr KALLIAS,
Mr KALOYANNIS, Mr McCARTIN, Mr PROTOPAPADAKIS
and Mr COSTANZO

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the situation of the Greek minority in Albania

PE 81.426

- A having regard to the decisions of the League of Nations prior to 1939 which declared the Greek minority in Southern Albania to be a separate ethnic minority with full religious and linguistic rights,
 - B having regard to the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation ,
 - C having regard to the right of the individual in multi-religious societies to follow his own personal faith,
 - D having regard to the right of the individual in multi-lingual societies to freedom of expression and instruction in his own language,
 - E concerned at the present situation of the 400.000 members of the Greek minority in Albania, many of whom having close family ties with the population of North West Greece, who are currently prevented from following their own religion due to the closure of churches and the banning of religious services, and are moreover prevented from receiving instruction in the Greek language in schools and Universities,
 - F desiring that the European Community should have peaceful and harmonious relations with all its neighbours,
1. Calls on the Albanian authorities to restore freedom of religious expression to their Greek Christian population by permitting churches to be reopened and services held;
 2. Calls on the Albanian authorities to permit the Greek language to be taught at all levels in Albanian primary and secondary schools and institutes of higher education;
 3. Calls on the Albanian authorities to open all border crossings with Greece as soon as is practicable to permit better travel and communications between Albania and the Community;
 4. Instructs its President, in the interests of furthering the establishment of good relations between the Community and the People's Republic of Albania, to forward this resolution to the Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the European Community, asking them to use their good offices with the Albanian Government to remedy the present situation.