

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1982-1983

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7 March 1983

DOCUMENT 1-1357/82

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr COSTANZO, Mr DEL DUCA, Mr BARBAGLI,  
Mr COLLESELLI, Mr GIUMMARRA and Mr STELLA

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure  
on the situation in the market in apples

PE 83.694

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to Article 39 of the Treaty,
  - B. whereas an exceptional quantity of apples, 80 million quintals, were produced in the Community in 1982, a 55% increase over the 52 million quintals produced in 1981,
  - C. whereas the crisis in the pome fruit sector has hit all the Member States,
  - D. whereas in addition, considerable quantities of apples are in cold storage which in addition to those produced this year are adversely affecting the market, and their destruction would mortify producers and irritate the public,
  - E. whereas the level of withdrawal prices is such that it cannot even be guaranteed that production costs will be covered,
  - F. whereas basic Regulation No. 1035/72 offers the possibility of distilling products withdrawn from the market in order to produce alcohol of a strength of more than 80°, but this procedure is cumbersome in practice and is not therefore used sufficiently,
  - G. whereas, in view of the current serious crisis, it is essential to ensure stricter compliance with Community preference with regard to the vast quantities of apples imported from third countries,
1. Considers it essential that the Commission undertake to rectify the situation in this sector by means of appropriate measures to promote full use of the product and prevent its destruction;
  2. Feels that the Commission should finance a publicity campaign to promote the consumption of apples by advertizing their nutritional properties and the important role they play in the human diet;
  3. Believes that a large proportion of the apples produced can be processed, with the aid of Community funds, into juices, jams and the like and sent as food aid to needy third countries through appropriate international organizations that will guarantee that it is not resold on the Community market;
  4. Considers it essential that the strength of the alcohol distilled from apples be reduced from above 80°, as laid down in the basic regulation, to 60° so that small farms also have the possibility of distilling and distillation costs are reduced;
  5. Also considers it essential to limit imports of apples from the southern hemisphere to a maximum of 240,000 tons and to fix the date for customs clearance at 15 June;
  6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission of the European Communities and the Council of Ministers. PE 83.694