European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

26 October 1982

DOCUMENT 1-773/82

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr BEUMER, Mr BROK, Mr HAHN, Mr PAPAPIETRO, Mrs PRUVOT, Mr ROGALLA, Mr SCHWENCKE, Mr SIMMONDS

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on support for joint action by radio stations in coverage of the 1984 elections

The European Parliament

- A. having regard to the fact that the "Euroservice" project for cooperation between radio stations in 1978/79 with a view to creating a joint programme during the run-up to the first European elections in 1979 could not be carried through on the scale envisaged, thus leaving unspent a large part of the grants made for this purpose by Parliament and Commission,
- B. whereas public knowledge of the development of European unification remains inadequate,
- C. conscious of the need to ensure a high turn-out at the next European elections in 1984,
- D. noting that a new initiative for joint action in the run-up to the 1984 elections has been taken up by the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), which has recently incorporated Euroservice into its news and current affairs working party,
- 1. Welcomes this new initiative by the EBU to set up a framework for joint action in order to provide a European dimension to radio coverage of the 1984 elections in all member states;
- Calls on the European Broadcasting Union and its members to implement the Euroservice project and to submit to Parliament detailed programme proposals and cost estimates, together with a financial report on the 1979 grants;
- 3. Resolves to support the project as far as it is able, so as to prevent this plan from failing because of financial difficulties;
- 4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

In the run-up to the first European elections the European Parliament and the Commission each contributed a grant of 300,000 ECU to a project for joint programmes (Euroservice) envisaged by an ad-hoc group of radio stations. The project was not realised on the scale proposed, with the result that approximately two thirds of the grants remain unspent.

A new initiative by various radio stations for joint programming in the run-up to the 1984 elections has recently been taken over by the European Broadcasting Union, which has given the task of realising the project to its news and current affairs working party.

The joint action group are seeking the institutions' approval to use the unspent balance of grants made for the 1979 elections; they further request additional aid not exceeding the total grants made in 1979.

Since the group propose to begin transmitting joint radio programmes by mid-1983, an immediate decision is necessary to make due funds available in the 1983 budget.