

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr SCHWENCKE and Mr ALBER

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

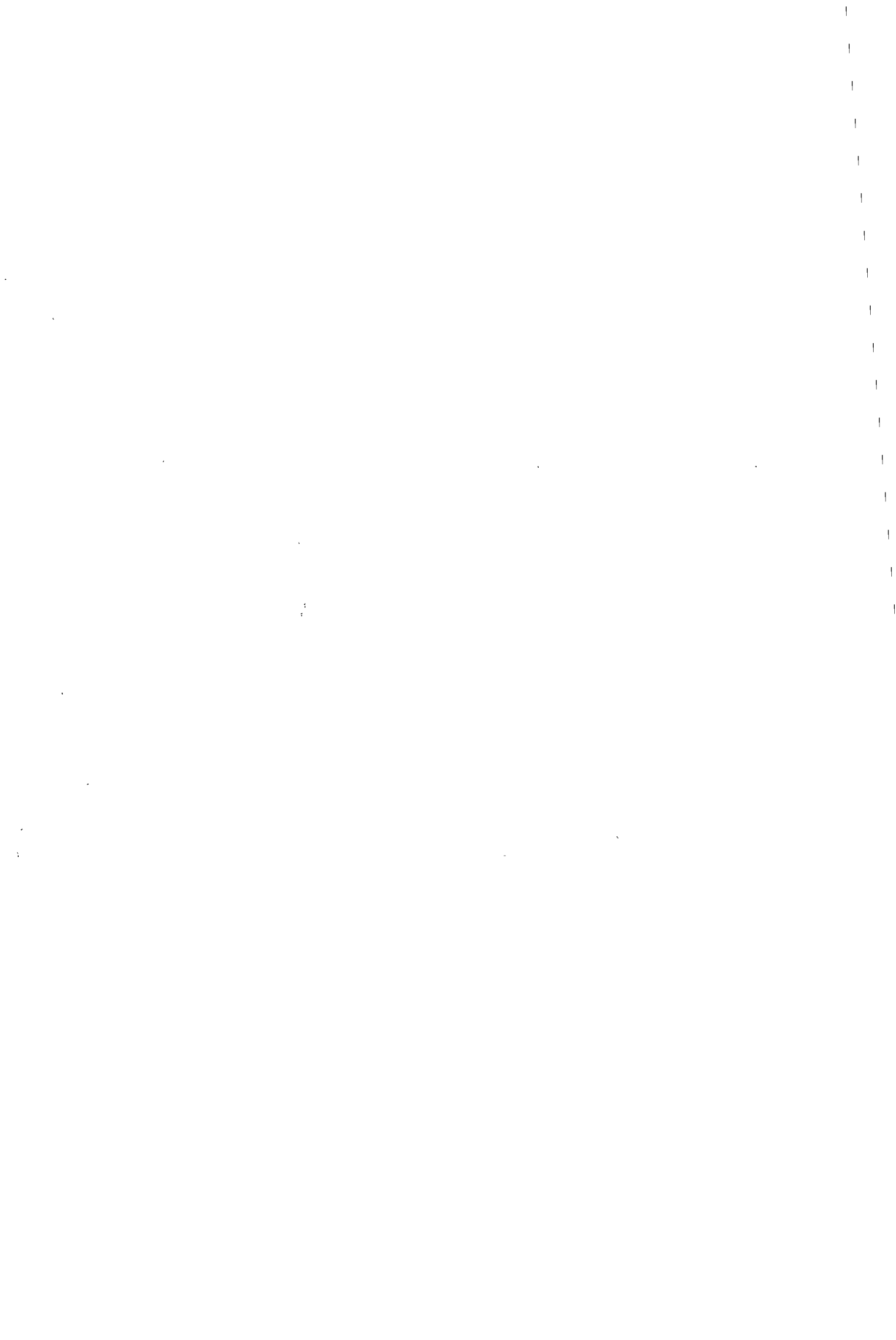
on greater cooperation between the European  
Communities and the Council of Europe

PE 81.706



## The European Parliament,

- A. whereas the European Communities and the Council of Europe represent two aspects of a common endeavour towards European unity,
- B. having regard to the preamble of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and the Statute of the Council of Europe calling for economic, social and cultural progress by means of joint action and closer links between the States,
- C. having regard to the declaration by the founding states of the European Communities on cooperation with the states members of international organizations of their willingness to conclude agreements with them to achieve goals of common interest,
- D. having regard to the Protocol to the Treaty establishing the ECSC on relations with the Council of Europe which calls for the closest possible links, particularly between the two Assemblies,
- E. having regard to Article 230 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and Article 200 of the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community, which states that the Communities shall establish 'all appropriate forms of cooperation with the Council of Europe' where it is not simply a question of mutual exchanges of information but of specific agreements,
- F. having regard to Rule 107 of the European Parliament's Rules of Procedure, which governs cooperation between the two Assemblies inasmuch as it requires the President of the European Parliament to forward an annual report on the activities of the European Parliament to the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe,
- G. having regard to the Resolution of the European Parliament of 12 September 1979, (Official Journal No C 239, 9 October 1978) on the position of the European Communities in international law in which the European Parliament refers to continuous cooperation with the Council of Europe and in particular with the Parliamentary Assembly,
- H. having regard to the role of the Council of Europe as a link between those European democracies which cannot or do not wish to participate in the process of unification of the States of the European Communities



and the Community of Ten which is ever developing, and in the light of the call for more intensive mutual information and consultation as expressed in the German-Italian initiative of the Foreign Ministers, Mr Genscher and Mr Colombo, on the further development of the European Communities towards European union of 19 November 1981,

- I. having regard to the statements made by the President of the Council of the European Communities, Mr Thorn, and the spokesman of various political groups in the European Parliament on 19 November 1980 on the expanded role of the Council of Europe in the dialogue between the Communities and the other European States,
- J. having regard to the decision taken by the delegations of the Bureaux of of two Assemblies of 9 March 1981 which provided for the setting up of a joint working party consisting of members of the Bureaux to investigate forms of cooperation and areas of common interest and draw up concrete proposals,
- K. having regard to its call for accession to the Council of Europe's convention on human rights on 29 October 1982 and various proposals that the European Communities should become party to other conventions of the Council of Europe,
- L. whereas cooperation between the European Communities and the Council of Europe is assisted by the Council of Europe's office for liaison with the Communities in Brussels so that more satisfactory progress has been achieved in this field than at the parliamentary level,
- M. having regard to the European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation set up by a decision of the Conference of Presidents of the European Assemblies in 1977,
- N. having regard to the growing attendance by Members of the European Parliament at events organized by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, such as hearings, colloquies and conferences, and vice-versa, and their joint sponsorship of the European Music Year 1985,
- O. having regard to the decision of the Bureau of its Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport calling for an opinion to be drawn up on the cultural declaration or charter of the Council of Europe,
- P. having regard to the joint meetings of political groups from the two Assemblies and the contacts which already exist between the rapporteurs and committee chairmen of both Assemblies,



1. Favours all further initiatives which could lead to closer ongoing cooperation between the two Assemblies, in particular between committees and political groups and the exchange of all relevant working documents;
2. Encourages the chairmen of political groups and committees in the two Assemblies to maintain close links in their respective fields and to keep each other regularly informed on work in progress by means of subject listings, minutes, etc.;
3. Proposes that the Presidents of the two Assemblies should authorize attendance by the chairmen and rapporteurs at committee meetings on a reciprocal basis, particularly when these take place in Brussels, Strasbourg or Paris;
4. Requests its Bureau to consider whether it would not be possible on special occasions (a) to revive the tradition of joint meetings between the European Parliament and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe given that between 1958 and 1978 23 meetings of this kind took place which proved valuable for mutual exchanges of information and political coordination and (b) for joint meetings to be held once a year between the appropriate specialist committees;
5. Calls on the Members of the European Parliament and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, given the complementary nature of the relationship between the two Assemblies, particularly in the fields on which the Council of Europe concentrates such as harmonization of laws and human rights, culture and education, architectural preservation, social affairs and combating terrorism, to share their findings with the European Communities in order to
  - (a) avoid duplication of effort, which will become absolutely essential as financial resources become ever scarcer,
  - (b) lend greater weight to the parliamentary aspect of the further institutional development of the European Union vis-à-vis the Council so that initiatives from the representatives of the people acquire due importance;
6. Instructs its President to forward this motion for a resolution to the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Commission, the Council and the presidents of the parliaments of the Member States.

