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European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1974-1975

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr GERLACH,

Mr MITTERDORFER and Mr WIELDRAAIJER

on the Community's regional policy as regards
the regions at the Community's internal
frontiers

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English Edition

PE 36.420

Or. D.

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the previous proposals of the Commission of the European Communities on the creation of a European Regional Development Fund;¹
 - having regard to the reports submitted by Mr Mitterdorfer and Mr Delmotte on behalf of its responsible committees;²
 - recognizing that it is necessary for the smooth functioning of the Communities that the economic significance of frontiers between Member States be removed and that this must be encouraged by cross-frontier cooperation in matters of regional policy;
 - having regard to the fact that certain regions which cross the Community's internal frontiers have remained backward or are likely to become backward solely on account of the frontiers, whereas if there were cross-frontier cooperation they could develop common centres of growth;
1. Calls upon the Commission to include the programmes for cross-frontier cooperation in regional policy at the Community's internal frontiers in the support offered by the Regional Development Fund and to extend accordingly in its new proposals to the Council the list of regions to receive support;
 2. Demands that resources of the European Investment Bank and the Social Fund should be used in particular for projects in areas which are near to or which cross frontiers;
 3. Calls upon the Commission to create legal bases for cross-frontier cooperation between local authorities in frontier areas;

¹ Doc. 152/73 and Doc. 205/73

² Doc. 276/73, 228/73, 120/73, 123/72 and 264/71

4. Calls upon the Commission to support as a model case the cooperation in matters of regional policy resulting from local initiative at the Dutch-German frontier, which has become known as the 'Euregio', and to this end:
 - to help finance the 'socio-cultural study commission' set up for this region,
 - to make it financially possible to bring up to date the expert opinion on structure produced for the region,¹
 - to make it financially possible for common statistics on the 'Euregio' region to be produced as a model case for the approximation of statistics in Europe, and to have them produced by the Community Statistics Office;
5. Also calls on the Commission to give greater consideration to the recognition of diplomas in terms of the need for cooperation at the Community's internal frontiers, and to speed up considerably work concerned with this;
6. Instructs its Committee on Regional Policy and Transport to submit a report on all problems concerning regional cooperation at the Community's internal frontiers, and a further report on the possibility of encouraging cooperation in matters of regional policy by the European institutions at the Community's external frontiers;
7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission of the European Communities.

¹ 'Gesellschaft für regionale Strukturentwicklung e.V.' and 'Stichting Het Nederlands Economisch Instituut:' 'Strukturuntersuchung/Strukturonderzoek: Twente, Oost Gelderland, Westmünsterland, Grafschaft Bentheim', Bonn and Rotterdam 1971.