

European Communities

---

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1974-1975

---

14 October 1974

DOCUMENT 300/74

INTERIM REPORT

drawn up on behalf of the Political Affairs Committee

on/European Union

Rapporteur: Mr Alfred BERTRAND

PE 37.998/fin.



In paragraph 16 of the communiqué issued following the Paris Summit Conference on 19/21 October 1972, the Heads of State or Government asked the Institutions of the Community to draw up a report on European Union before the end of 1975 for submission to a subsequent Summit Conference.

By letter of 17 April 1973 the Political Affairs Committee requested permission to report on this subject.

By letter of 10 May 1973 the President of the European Parliament authorized the Political Affairs Committee to prepare a report on this matter. At its meeting of 2 April 1974 the enlarged Bureau confirmed this decision and also asked all the other committees for their opinions.

At its meeting of 17/18 May the Political Affairs Committee appointed Mr BERTRAND rapporteur.

The committee considered the draft report at its meetings of 11 October and 5/6 November 1973, 31 January/1 February, 21/22 February, 4/5 March, 21/22 March 1974.

At its meeting of 3/4 July 1974 the Political Affairs Committee decided to submit to the European Parliament a first interim report on this matter, the draft of which was considered at the meeting of 30 September and 1 October 1974.

The motion for a resolution was adopted unanimously on 9 October 1974 with 1 abstention.

The following were present: Mr Giraud, chairman; Mr Radoux, vice-chairman; Mr Bertrand, rapporteur; Mr Albertsen (deputizing for Mr Dalsager), Mr Berthoin, Lord Bessborough (deputizing for Mr Kirk), Mr Brugger (deputizing for Mr Scelba), Mr Cointat (deputizing for Mr Bourges), Mr Corterier, Mr Della Briotta (deputizing for Mr Corona), Mr Delmotte (deputizing for Mr Behrendt), Mr Faure, Mr Hansen (deputizing for Mr Patijn), Mr Lenihan, Mr Lücker and Mr McDonald.

The rapporteur was asked to give the explanatory statement orally.



The Political Affairs Committee hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on European Union

The European Parliament,

- reaffirming that the future of the peoples of the Community demands observance of the solemn undertaking to transform the whole complex of the relations of the Member States into a European Union before the end of the present decade and with the fullest respect for the treaties already signed<sup>1</sup>,
- pointing out that the Community Institutions were requested to draw up a report on European Union before the end of 1975<sup>1</sup>,
- conscious of the role conferred on by it by the treaties and by the will of the peoples of the Community,
- having regard to the motion for a resolution of its Political Affairs Committee (Doc. 300/74),

I

1. Undertakes to draw up and submit by 30 June 1975 its report on European Union;
2. Strongly urges the Commission and Council of the Communities to give the same undertaking;
3. Declares its readiness to draw up, in close cooperation with the other Community Institutions, a single report on European Union by the date set by the Heads of State or Government at the October 1972 Paris Summit Conference;

II

4. Stresses that European Union, as the practical embodiment of the principles and objectives laid down in the treaties establishing the European Communities and the joint declaration on European identity, must enable the European Community to emerge and prevail as an economic and political union;

---

<sup>1</sup> Paragraph 16 of the communiqué issued after the Paris Summit Conference of 19-21 October 1972.

5. Declares that this transformation can be achieved only with the support of the Community Institutions and the Member States, the aim being to give a new shape to the political resolve to act in concert in a Community of shared risks and opportunities which is constantly evolving towards a closer union between the European peoples, while respecting their traditions;

### III

6. Points out that efforts to transform the present Community into a European Union must aim at the following :

- extension and strengthening of existing Community powers and the creation of new Community powers, not only in the field of monetary, economic, social and cultural policy, but also in that of foreign policy and security;
- democratization of the institutions which will be responsible for Community activities while respecting the specific interests of the Member States.

7. Considers that European Union must comprise the following basic institutions :

- a political decision-making centre with the appropriate terms of reference to cover the areas mentioned in paragraph 6, and destined to form the European government;
- a parliament comprising one Chamber elected by direct universal suffrage and a Chamber of States;
- a Court of Justice to ensure observance of the law in the interpretation and application of the treaties, agreements and decisions, and to guarantee the primacy of the law of the Union over national legislation;
- an economic and social committee;

### IV

8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the governments of the Member States, and to the Council and Commission of the European Communities.