

Thursday, 12 April 1984

the European Communities to the Council concerning the major problems relating to the proposed Council Directives to harmonize the structures of consumer taxes, other than VAT, on beer, wine and alcohol (COM(79) 261 final) (Doc. 1-49/84).

The following spoke: Mr Wedekind, on behalf of the EPP Group, Mr Beazley, on behalf of the ED Group, Mr Rogalla, on behalf of the Socialist Group, Mrs Gastle and Mr Tugendhat, *Vice-President of the Commission*.

IN THE CHAIR: MR ESTGEN

Vice-President

Mr Hopper put a question to the Commission which Mr Tugendhat answered.

The President declared the joint debate closed.

He announced that the motions for resolutions would be put to the vote at the next voting time (*see item 27 of the minutes of 13 April 1984*).

The President announced that the report by Mr Hutton (Doc. 1-1523/83) would be put to the vote again at voting time the following day (*see item 9 of the minutes of 13 April 1984*) in accordance with the previous announcement (*see item 2 of the minutes of 9 April 1984*).

21. Right of members of the armed forces to form associations (vote)

The next item was the vote on the motion for a resolution contained in the report by Mr Peters (Doc. 1-1387/83) ⁽¹⁾.

Preamble and recitals A to C: adopted.

Recitals D and E:

— amendment 2 by Mr Ephremidis, Mr Adamou and Mr Alavanos: rejected.

Recitals D and E: adopted.

Recital F: adopted.

Paragraph 1:

— amendment 3 by the same: rejected;

— amendment 1 by Mr Tyrrell, on behalf of the ED Group: rejected.

Paragraph 1: adopted.

Paragraphs 2 and 3: adopted.

Explanations of vote:

The following spoke: Mr Baillot, on behalf of the French members of the Communist and Allies Group, Mr Sieglerschmidt, on behalf of the Socialist Group, and Mr Baillot, on the comments made by the last speaker.

Parliament adopted the following resolution:

⁽¹⁾ The rapporteur spoke on all amendments.

RESOLUTION

on the right of members of the armed forces to form associations

The European Parliament,

— having regard to the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Schall, Mr Klepsch, Mr Vergeer, Mr Tindemans, Mr Habsburg, Mr Janssen van Raay, Mr Bocklet, Mr Konrad Schön, Mr Rinsche, Mr Notenboom, Mrs Walz, Mr Hahn, Mr von Hassel, Mr Penders, Mr Malangré, Mr Karl Fuchs, Mr Brok, Mr Früh and Mr Mertens on the right of members of the armed forces to form associations (Doc. 1-323/81),

— having regard to the report of the Legal Affairs Committee (Doc. 1-1387/83),

A. having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (proclaimed at the United Nations General Assembly on 10 December 1948), and in particular Article 20 thereof (freedom of peaceful assembly and association), to the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms signed in Rome on 4 November 1950 and in particular Article 11 thereof (freedom of peaceful assembly and association), and to Article 3 of the European Social Charter,

B. having regard to the resolution adopted by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on 8 May 1979 which recognizes the right of police officers, military police,

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armed forces personnel and militiamen performing the functions of police to establish, join and actively participate in professional organizations,

- C. having regard to the Parliamentary Assembly's declaration that such professional organizations must have the right to take part in negotiations concerning the professional and social interests of their members,
- D. whereas servicemen, whether conscripts or personnel serving for longer periods, must not become isolated from democratic society and must experience at first hand the democracy which they are protecting,
- E. having regard to the principle that the serviceman is to be regarded as a citizen in uniform,
- F. whereas strikes cannot be considered a means of solving the social problems faced by servicemen,

1. Calls on all Member States of the European Community to grant their servicemen the right, in peace time, to establish, join and actively participate in professional associations in order to protect their social interests;

2. Recommends that the legal provisions of individual States on these matters be approximated, taking into account the relevant articles of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Council of Europe's Convention on the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and the European Social Charter;

3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Foreign Ministers meeting in political cooperation, calling on them to forward it to the appropriate ministries and to the parliaments of the Member States for an opinion.

22. EEC-USA relations (vote)

The next item was the vote on the motions for resolutions contained in three reports.

Hänsch report (Doc. 1-1540/83) ⁽¹⁾:

Preamble: adopted.

Recital A:

- amendment 2 by Mr Piquet, Mr Denis and Mr Baillot: rejected;
- amendment 18 by Mr Segre and Mr Galluzzi: rejected;
- amendment 3 by Mr Piquet and others: rejected.

Recital A: adopted.

Recitals B and C: adopted.

Recital D:

- amendment 19 by Lady Elles, on behalf of the ED Group: declared adopted.

An electronic check was requested: the amendment was rejected.

- amendment 20 by the same: adopted by electronic vote;

- amendment 21 by the same: adopted after an electronic check;

- amendment 22 and 23 by the same: adopted by successive electronic votes.

Recital D: adopted as amended.

Recital E: adopted.

Recital F:

- amendment 24 by the same: adopted after an electronic check.

⁽¹⁾ The rapporteur spoke on all amendments.