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*Plenary sitting*

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13.5.2015

B8-0505/2015

## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION**

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure

on concluding, with certain South-East Asian countries, bilateral agreements based on application of the criterion of reciprocity as regards access to conducting corporate activities on the respective markets

**Gianluca Buonanno**

**Motion for a European Parliament resolution on concluding, with certain South-East Asian countries, bilateral agreements based on application of the criterion of reciprocity as regards access to conducting corporate activities on the respective markets**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas, in Asia, EU citizens can only conduct certain corporate and investment activities in conjunction with a local partner who must, by law, have a majority shareholding in the company concerned;
- B. whereas Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines are among the states which impose this restriction, while the citizens of those states are nevertheless free to conduct corporate activities in the EU;
- C. whereas in Thailand, paradoxically, US citizens are permitted to do what EU citizens cannot and may freely conduct entrepreneurial activities in that country by virtue of a treaty concluded to that effect;
- D. whereas this is doubly prejudicial to EU citizens and undertakings, firstly because the failure to apply the condition of reciprocity disadvantages them in respect of nationals of those countries and, secondly, because such reciprocity has in fact been granted to US competitors, who can conduct business activities more easily and profitably than EU citizens;
- E. whereas the current crisis means that European undertakings need to be active in developing markets;
  - 1. Believes it important to conclude agreements with the above-mentioned states, and with any others pursuing similar policies, based on reciprocal arrangements as regards access to the respective markets;
  - 2. Suggests that the Commission be mandated to discuss, draw up and conclude, with those states, specific agreements under which reciprocity is a precondition for access to the respective markets.