European Parliament

2014 - 2019



Plenary sitting

20.5.2015 B8-0514/2015

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure
on Latin and Greek as Europe's languages and cultures of origin

Florian Philippot, Dominique Bilde, Sophie Montel, Steeve Briois

RE\1063168EN.doc PE558.884v01-00

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Motion for a European Parliament resolution on Latin and Greek as Europe's languages and cultures of origin

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Council Directive 77/486/EEC of 25 July 1977 on the education of the children of migrant workers,
- having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the objective of the ELCO (teaching languages and cultures of origin) programme, which was introduced in France in 1975, was to make integration easier for the children of migrant workers;
- B. whereas it would be discriminatory if children born in the Member State in which they live were not able to take advantage of this programme;
- C. whereas the languages of origin of the EU Member States are Latin and Greek, which are at the root of many of the languages currently spoken in the EU Member States, and whereas Latin and Greek were spoken everywhere for centuries as the languages of educated people;
- 1. Takes the view that the EU should encourage people to gain a better knowledge of Greco-Latin culture, which bequeathed to the EU the democratic principles it claims to uphold;
- 2. Maintains that the EU should encourage the learning of Latin and Greek in all the Member States:
- 3. Takes the view that the EU should contemplate using Latin as a language of reference;
- 4. Calls on the Commission to set up a body to consider that idea;
- 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council and the Member States.

