



Plenary sitting

B8-1453/2016

26.5.2016

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure

on speeding up payments to SMEs

Dominique Martin

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on speeding up payments to SMEs

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Directive 2011/7/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 on combating late payment in commercial transactions¹,
 - having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas SMEs and SMIs account for between 80 and 90% of paid jobs;
 - B. whereas they therefore offer substantial potential for job creation;
 - C. whereas they are often financially vulnerable and cannot afford not to be paid on time by their customers;
1. Points out that SMEs often have to deal with the problem of very delayed and late payments which impose significant administrative and financial burdens on them and constitute one of the main causes of insolvency among them, thus jeopardising the survival of firms and many jobs;
 2. Takes the view that, with the aim of establishing an environment conducive to SMEs and their ability to create jobs, specific steps should be taken to address the problem of late payments, which came to light as long ago as in 1997;
 3. Calls on the Commission to make it possible for the Member States to:
 - introduce provisions designed to speed up payments to SMEs;
 - impose significant, dissuasive and material penalties in the event of late payment;
 - penalise firms guilty of late payment just as severely as individuals.

¹ OJ L 48, 23.2.2011, p. 1-10.