21 October 1999 B5-0189/1999

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to the Commission statement

pursuant to Rule 37(2) of the Rules of Procedure

by the following Members: Muscardini, Berthu, Camre, Collins, Crowley and Queiro

on behalf of the UEN Group

on the European Council meeting in Tampere on 15 and 16 October 1999

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Motion for a resolution on the European Council meeting in Tampere on 15 and 16 October 1999

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the conclusions of the Council meeting in Tampere on 15 and 16 October 1999,
- having regard to the judgment handed down by the Court of Justice on 21 September 1999 on freedom of movement and border controls,
- A. having regard to the guidelines and political priorities set out therein,
- B. having regard to the common attachment to freedom based on human rights, democratic institutions, the state of law and the free movement of persons, services and goods in a Europe imbued with security and justice,
- C. whereas the development of joint policies on asylum and immigration is impossible unless effective controls are established on the external borders so as to put an end to illegal immigration and the activities of international organised crime,
- D. whereas improved cooperation between the Member States, third countries and the relevant international organisations is necessary to avert and counter the threats facing democratic societies from organised crime, which comprises the trade in human beings, sexual exploitation, notably of children, drugs trafficking, corruption, fraud and money laundering,
- 1. Notes that the European Council has chosen the path of cooperation to set up the area of liberty, security and justice (ALSJ);
- 2. Notes that the simultaneous implementation of freedom of movement in an open Union without frontiers and of a Europe which aspires to be just and secure will create significant problems, aggravated by the prospect of future enlargement;
- 3. Agrees with the European Council that the objective of combating major crime must include a refusal to tolerate areas in the European Union where organised international crime can act with impunity;
- 4. Encourages the Member States to take all the necessary practical measures to track down, freeze, seize and confiscate the proceeds of crime;
- 5. Considers that the rights of victims must be clearly recognised in pursuing the above objective;
- 6. Considers that techniques in combating serious crime as well as petty crime which have proved their effectiveness must be disseminated in the Member States and in associated third countries;

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- 7. Notes in this connection the establishment of the Eurojust unit which aims to improve coordination between magistrates and police services in the Member States;
- 8. Proposes that exchanges of information and practices of this kind should also be established, within the framework of Europol, in order to prevent crime by young people in urban areas or to set up rapid warning systems;
- 9. Calls on the governments of the Member States to support the rapid and effective implementation of these exchanges and of the cooperation referred to in the conclusions of the Presidency of the European Council;
- 10. Encourages the Member States to devise multidisciplinary cooperation systems aimed at combating illegal immigration and drugs trafficking;
- 11. Stresses the importance, in implementing the ALSJ, of respecting the principles of transparency and democratic control, notably involving the national parliaments, so that these measures are in keeping with the common aspirations of citizens of the Member States in these areas;
- 12. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the European Council, the Commission, and the governments and parliaments of the Member States.

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