

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

---

*Session document*

16 March 2000

B5-0294/2000

## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to the Commission statement

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

by the following Members: Le Pen, de Gaulle, Gollnisch, Lang, Martinez and Frank Vanhecke

on behalf of the TDI Group

on the Echelon system

RE\408319EN.doc

PE 289.404  
Or. fr

**EN**

**EN**

**B5-0294/2000**

**Resolution on the Echelon system**

*The European Parliament,*

- A. having regard to the results of the research by STOA (Scientific and Technical Options Assessment) concerning the Echelon electronic eavesdropping system, which has confirmed the existence of a large-scale electronic communications interception system set up by the United States in cooperation with Great Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand,
- B. whereas this is a worldwide electronic espionage network,
- C. whereas the espionage in question is not being carried out for purposes of national defence or to combat international terrorism but for private economic, commercial and industrial purposes,
  - 1. Condemns the existence of such a worldwide private interception system;
  - 2. Reaffirms the fundamental right to respect for private life, the right to confidentiality of all communications and respect for the rules of legality and good faith which ought to apply to all industrial or commercial operations,
  - 3. Denounces the overcautious and irresponsible attitude of the Council and Commission, which refuse to make any statement about the responsibilities of the governments concerned;
  - 4. Calls on the Member States involved, whether their involvement takes the form of having satellite relay stations installed on their territory or of making use of this eavesdropping system, to inform the other Member States of the fact and to leave this network as soon as possible;
  - 5. Calls on the Member States to impose immediate trade sanctions, including extraterritorial sanctions, on undertakings which have made use of information from the NSA (National Security Agency);
  - 6. Is concerned about the rumours concerning the existence of a 'Super Echelon', which is said already to be operating on a large scale and whose aim is allegedly to acquire complete control over the information society by monitoring electronic equipment, the content of computer systems and providers of access to the 'information superhighways';
  - 7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, Commission and governments of the Member States.