

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to the Council and Commission statements

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

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on behalf of the PPE-DE Group

on the priorities for the EU's external action

B5-0662/2000

Resolution on the priorities for the EU's external action

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the conclusions of the informal meeting of the General Affairs Council of 2 and 3 September 2000 in Evian,
 - having regard to the provisions of the TEU on the common foreign and security policy and development policy, and the standing international commitments of the EU,
 - having regard to the conclusions of the European Council meeting in Feira,
- A. whereas Parliament has not thus far been consulted on the priorities for the external action of the EU,
- B. whereas the financing of these priorities will have serious implications for the EU budget,
- C. whereas at the present time it remains unclear what will be the respective roles of the Commission and the High Representative in the setting and implementation of these priorities,
1. Notes the conclusions of the informal meeting of the General Affairs Council but asks the Council to fully associate Parliament with the definition of the priorities regarding the external action of the EU;
 2. Stresses that it will not accept the setting of new priorities which require the allocation of financial provisions from the EU Budget, in the absence of a clear indication of the estimated cost of the action envisaged, the source of financing and, wherever necessary, an adequate revision of the financial perspective;
 3. Urges the Council to address matters relating to parliamentary control of the ESDP and clearly structure the timing, the modalities and the discussion of any developments or decisions in this field;
 4. Underlines the duty of the Commission and Council, in cooperation with Parliament, to fully coordinate action in the area of foreign policy in order to improve and guarantee the coherence, effectiveness, transparency and democratic accountability of EU foreign policy;
 5. Recognises the respective roles of the Vice-President of the Commission/ Commissioner for external relations and the Secretary-General/ High Representative for foreign affairs and defence as complementary, where the Commission coordinates the foreign affairs aspects of EU policy according to the TEU and the High Representative is in charge of the CFSP within the Council;

6. Draws attention to the need, in accordance with the perspectives outlined by the Treaty, to fully associate Parliament with the evolution and definition of the common defence policy;
7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission and Council.