

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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B5-0816/2001

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to Oral Question B5-0537/2001

pursuant to Rule 42(5) of the Rules of Procedure

by Yves Butel

on behalf of the EDD Group

on language diversity

European Parliament resolution on language diversity

The European Parliament,

- A. whereas the language of the inhabitants of a country is a major element in the recognition of that country's autonomy,
- B. whereas the European Union has manifested its concern for national and regional languages through the European Year of Languages 2001,
- C. whereas it follows that the EU should be in the forefront of respect for language diversity,
 - 1. Is concerned at the trend within the institutions in favour of prioritising a policy based on cost-cutting over respect for multilingualism;
 - 2. Reminds the EU of its duty of political neutrality in the context of respect for all the languages of the fifteen Member States, with especial regard to the impending enlargement and irrespective of financial considerations;
 - 3. Recalls the need to promote the regional languages within each Member State, in a context of respect for their specific cultural traditions;
 - 4. Encourages the Institutions to promote policies for the defence of minority languages;
 - 5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission.