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## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to the Council and Commission statements

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

by Carlos Coelho and Christian Ulrik von Boetticher  
on behalf of the Group of the PPE/DE Group

Gerhard Schmid and Jan Marinus Wiersma  
on behalf of the PSE Group

and Colette Flesch and Elly Plooij-van Gorsel  
on behalf of the ELDR Group

on ECHELON

**European Parliament resolution on ECHELON**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to its resolution of 5 September 2001 on the existence of a global system for the interception of private and commercial communications (ECHELON interception system) and the report of its temporary committee on this subject,
- A. whereas the Temporary Committee on the interception system concluded that there was no reason to doubt the existence of an interception system of communications on a world level, of which the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand formed part,
- B. whereas the events of 11 September, other recent terrorist attacks and the international efforts to combat terrorism have further emphasised the importance of the recommendations contained in Parliament's resolution,
- C. whereas Parliament's resolution contains a great number of recommendations concerning measures to be taken to protect citizens and firms against the abuse and illegal use of interception of communications, the introduction and use of systems and techniques to protect privacy and the confidentiality of communications and the introduction of measures against industrial espionage and the abuse of competitive intelligence,
- D. whereas the EU Council Framework Decision of 13 June 2002 on combating terrorism was adopted pursuant to Title VI of the Treaty on European Union and contains specific references to collaboration, cooperation and coordination between the different authorities of the Member States in the fight against terrorism,
- E. whereas Parliament's resolution also contained recommendations concerning the scrutiny of the activities of secret services, as well as recommendations concerning the establishment of joint and coordinated European intelligence activities,
- 1. Regrets that the Council and the Commission have failed to react adequately to the recommendation made by Parliament; urges the Council and the Commission to take all measures necessary to fully implement the recommendations contained in Parliament's resolution on the existence of a global system for the interception of private and commercial communications;
- 2. Welcomes the initiatives already undertaken by the Commission and the Council to increase security in electronic communications, but insists that further measures are necessary to protect citizens and firms against the abuse and illegal use of interception of communications, to further introduce and use systems and techniques to protect privacy and the confidentiality of communications and to introduce measures against industrial espionage and the abuse of competitive intelligence;
- 3. Reiterates its request to the Member States to collaborate, cooperate and coordinate

amongst themselves and on a multilateral level in the exchange of information with the aim of increasing effectiveness in the area of the Common Security and Defence Policy and in the fight against terrorism and against international crime;

4. Insists that measures be taken to provide all European citizens in all parts of the Union with the same legal guarantees concerning the protection of privacy and the interception of their communications, whilst scrupulously respecting the fundamental rights guaranteed by the current legal framework and the 'acquis communautaire' and whilst also taking account of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union;
5. Calls for negotiations to be opened to conclude international agreements, in particular with the United States, on the protection of EU citizens and firms against the abuse and illegal use of interception of communications and on measures against industrial espionage and the abuse of competitive intelligence;
6. Requests that the Convention on the Future of Europe, when tackling the question of incorporating the Charter of Fundamental Rights into the Treaty, formulate recommendations guaranteeing that Member States will be committed to prohibiting and not engaging, either directly or under cover of third parties, in industrial espionage;
7. Notes that little progress has been made so far concerning the establishment of joint and coordinated European intelligence activities and the introduction of a democratic scrutiny of these activities, and insists that proposals in this field should be presented soon;
8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the Convention on the Future of Europe, and the governments of the candidate countries.