

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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*Session document*

15 December 2003

B5-564/2003

## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION**

further to the Council and Commission statements

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

by Francis Wurtz

on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

on the Statute for Members of the European Parliament

**B5-564**

**European Parliament resolution on the Statute for Members of the European Parliament**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Article 190(5) of the Treaty establishing the European Community,
  - having regard to the Act concerning the election of the representatives of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage, annexed to the Council decision of 20 September 1976,
  - having regard to the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the European Communities,
  - having regard to its earlier resolutions on the Statute for Members of the European Parliament, and in particular that of 4 June 2003,
  - having regard to the Bureau decision of 28 May 2003 concerning the new rules governing the reimbursement of Members' expenses,
  - having regard to Rule 37(2) of the Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the equal status of democratically elected Members of the European Parliament must be underpinned by a common Statute,
- B. whereas there are major differences between the positions of the Council and the European Parliament,
- C. whereas it is necessary to reach an agreement before new Member States join the European Union,
1. Reaffirms the needs to define and apply a single Statute for Members of the European Parliament;
  2. Believes that an overall compromise on the Statute for Members of the European Parliament could comprise the following points:
    - (a) the part of the Statute relating to secondary law should be examined separately from that relating to primary law and they should be approved on the basis of the institutional provisions applying to each of them;
    - (b) Members should be entitled to an old-age pension as from the age of 60;
    - (c) the provision concerning the Community tax to which the Members' allowance is to be made subject is without prejudice to the Member States' power to make this allowance subject to national tax law provisions, provided that any double taxation is avoided.

3. Calls for the new rules governing the payment of expenses and allowances to Members to enter into force at the same time as the Statute;
4. Calls on the Council to take this proposed compromise into account and to approve the Statute for Members of the European Parliament;
5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the governments and parliaments of the present and future Member States.