



Plenary sitting

B9-0151/2020

15.4.2020

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 143 of the Rules of Procedure

on upholding the unrestricted use of cash

Christine Anderson, Gunnar Beck

B9-0151/2020

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on upholding the unrestricted use of cash

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 3(4) of the Treaty on European Union (TEU),
 - having regard to Articles 127 and 133 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU),
 - having regard to the current coronavirus pandemic,
 - having regard to Rule 143 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas businesses currently prefer card over cash payments on the grounds that this reduces the risk of infection;
- B. whereas the fourth indent of Article 127(2) TFEU stipulates that the smooth operation of payment systems must be promoted;
- C. whereas bricks and mortar retailers have already had to shoulder significant sales losses as a result of measures to curb the pandemic, and so further customer deterrents – such as restrictions on payment methods – should be prevented;
1. Warns that people are losing faith in cash;
 2. Points out that the European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS) has recently found that using a card terminal is no more hygienic than using cash;
 3. Stresses that a recommendation that credit or debit cards be used instead of cash is not necessary;
 4. Takes the view, therefore, that promoting the smooth operation of payment systems implies unconditional acceptance of the use of cash;
 5. Urges the Member States not to allow the coronavirus pandemic to be used as a pretext for restricting cash payments.