

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

15 September 1999

B5-0074/99 }  
B5-0076/99 }  
B5-0086/99 }  
B5-0089/99 }  
B5-0102/99 } RC1

## JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure

by the following Members:

Giannakou-Koutsikou, Oostlander and Grossetête, on behalf of the PPE Group  
Katiforis, on behalf of the PSE Group  
Duff, on behalf of the ELDR Group  
Hautala, Lannoye and Ceyhun, on behalf of the V/ALE Group  
Korakas, Papayannakis, Bakopoulos, Koulourianos and Alavanos, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

replacing the motions by:

- the UEN Group, (B5-0074/99)
- the PSE Group, (B5-0076/99)
- the ELDR Group, (B5-0086/99)
- the PPE Group, (B5-0089/99)
- the V/ALE Group, (B5-0102/99)

on the catastrophic earthquake in Athens on 7 September 1999

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to the devastating earthquake, measuring 5.9 on the Richter scale, which struck in the Athens region on 7 September 1999,
- B. whereas over 100 people were killed, several hundred people were injured, several thousand buildings and houses were destroyed and several hundred others were damaged, and over 60 000 people have been affected by the disaster,

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PE 279.954/  
PE 279.956/  
PE 279.965/  
PE 279.969/  
PE 279.983/ RC1  
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- C. having regard to the damage suffered by buildings in the city of Athens, such as the historic monuments, the archaeological museum, churches and hospitals,
1. Expresses its profound sympathy with the victims' families and everyone living in Attica;
  2. Commends the efforts of the rescue teams involved in the search for survivors;
  3. Calls on the Commission, the Council and other competent bodies to consider all possible ways of speedily helping the victims and rapidly repairing the damage;
  4. Believes that urgent consideration should be given to the creation of a European Research Institute for the systematic study and application of new methods for early warning of seismic activity;
  5. Calls on the Commission to explore ways of improving the effectiveness of relief organisation in major humanitarian disasters inside or outside the EU and to report to Parliament on its findings;
  6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Greek Government and the authorities of the Attica region and the city of Athens.