

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

16 February 2000

B5-0130/2000}  
B5-0131/2000}  
B5-0138/2000}RC1

## JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

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

by the following Members:

Pronk, Zappalà, Tajani and Brunetta, on behalf of the PPE-DE Group  
Plooi-j-van Gorsel, on behalf of the ELDR Group  
Angelilli, on behalf of the UEN Group

replacing motions by :

- the PPE-DE Group (B5-0130/2000)
- the UEN Group (B5-0131/2000)
- the ELDR Group (B5-0138/2000)

on industrial restructuring in Europe

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the 1989 European Charter of Fundamental Social Rights of Workers, and the provisions of the EC Treaty, in particular Article 136, which states that Member States have common objectives concerning employment, improved living and working conditions, proper social protection and a social dialogue with a view to high and lasting employment and the combating of exclusion,
- having regard to Directive 75/129/EC<sup>1</sup>, amended by Directive 92/56/EC<sup>2</sup>, on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to collective redundancies,
- having regard to Directive 94/45/EC<sup>3</sup> on the establishment of a European Works Council or a procedure in Community-scale undertakings and Community-scale groups of

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 48, 22.2.1975, p. 29.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 245, 26.8.1992, p. 3.

<sup>3</sup> OJ L 254, 30.9.1994, p. 64.

undertakings for the purposes of informing and consulting employees, as well as to the OECD and UN Codes of Conduct,

- having regard to the Commission proposal on a general framework on information and consultation of workers in European undertakings,
  - having regard to its resolution of 28 October 1999 on restructuring of firms<sup>1</sup> (Indent, B5-0138/00)
- A. whereas companies should be as free as possible to make management decisions which secure the commercial growth of their enterprises and so help tackle the problem of structural long-term unemployment in Europe, while taking full account of the impact of their decisions,
- B. whereas decisions involving restructuring, relocating or closing down industries may reduce employment and jeopardise the economic and social cohesion of an area,
- C. whereas situations still arise where employees are informed after the decision, without any communication, consultation or involvement in any decision taken by the company,
- D. whereas the companies in question may have been granted over the years public aids and subsidies including tax relief,
1. Stresses that the emphasis should not be on bailing out firms with public money, but on helping firms to make their own management decisions under restructuring programmes, and in a way which represents best practice; in this connection, looks forward to considering the proposed Observatory of Industrial Change which is on the agenda of the European Council of 23-24 March;
  2. Draws attention to the importance of creating European Works Councils to guarantee the transparency of relocation and restructuring decisions;
  3. Calls on the Commission to carry out an urgent evaluation of the implementation of the Directive on collective redundancies and closure of enterprises;
  4. Stresses that the Commission should accelerate the re-examination of Directive 94/45/EC;
  5. Calls on the Council to reach as soon as possible a common position on the proposal on a general framework on the information and consultation process of workers in European undertakings;
  6. Calls on Member States to favour social dialogue and cooperation within enterprises and regions;

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<sup>1</sup> Texts Adopted of that sitting, Item 8.

7. Considers that any public subsidy should preferably be made conditional on long-term agreements on employment and local development with the management of the undertakings;
8. In the topical case of the Goodyear/Dunlop plant at Cisterna di Latina, and bearing in mind the subsidies which have been received over the years, urges Goodyear/Dunlop to seek a business solution to keeping this plant open, which could include selling the operation to a European tyre manufacturer, thereby maintaining employment;
9. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the governments and parliaments of the Member States and the employees and management of the Goodyear/Dunlop plant at Cisterna di Latina.