

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Session document

5 July 2000

B5-0625/2000 }
B5-0632/2000 }
B5-0649/2000 }
RC1

JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 50(5) of the Rules of Procedure by

- Johan van Hecke on behalf of the PPE-DE Group
- Margrietus J. van den Berg, Claude Desama and Pasqualina Napoletano on behalf of the PSE Group
- Giovanni Procacci on behalf of the ELDR Group
- Fodé Sylla, Armando Cossutta and Luisa Morgantini on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

replacing the motions by the following groups:

- PPE-DE (B5-0625/2000),
- GUE/NGL (B5-0632/2000),
- PSE (B5-0649/2000),

on Euro 2000

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PE 292.986}
PE 292.993}
PE 293.715} RC1

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European Parliament resolution on Euro 2000

The European Parliament,

- A. considering that the Belgian and Dutch authorities have been able to organise a large-scale football tournament and associated festivities,
- B. considering that the Belgian and Dutch authorities have shown themselves to be fully in control of public order and able to prevent structural disturbances during the Euro 2000 football festivities,
- C. having regard to the joint action by the Belgian and Dutch Ministers of Home Affairs to see if a ban on travelling by condemned hooligans to countries other than their home country is possible,
- D. considering that the vast majority of the soccer fans have through their behaviour supported a peaceful Euro 2000,
- E. considering that hooliganism seems to be a growing problem, involving a high social cost and taking on totally unacceptable proportions and that all forms of hooliganism should be condemned,
- F. considering that the EU and its Member States need to radically fight this phenomenon, which at certain moments turns into a cross-border problem and undermines the European idea and solidarity within the EU,
- G. considering that repeatedly serious riots took place in Brussels during Euro 2000 and on the day of the Germany - England game also in Charleroi, each time involving English supporters,
- H. considering that the British authorities recognised that there were problems with preventing English hooligans travelling to Belgium and that the authorities of other EU Member States did take the necessary preventive measures to keep their "hard core" inside their national borders,
- I. whereas, during the final of Euro 2000 at the Feyenoord Stadium in Rotterdam on Sunday, 2 July, 140 disabled persons holding valid tickets were inexplicably searched and were then deprived of their wheelchairs and had to be carried by their helpers to seats in the stand,
- J. whereas a number of journalists wishing to exercise their right to report these events were prevented from doing so, with some of them being mistreated and held in custody,
 - 1. Welcomes the initiatives taken by the Dutch and Belgian Governments which resulted in a successful Euro 2000;
 - 2. Welcomes the behaviour of the vast majority of the soccer fans and the practical measures

taken by UEFA;

3. Notes that in many cases hooligans engaged in racist, xenophobic and homophobic violence;
4. Requests all governments associated with football teams represented in European tournaments to act both to foresee and prevent football hooliganism and to cooperate in bringing effective means to bear in order to combat hooliganism once a tournament has commenced;
5. Requests that the national governments involved take sufficient preventive measures in the future to prevent hooligans who have already been involved in soccer riots from travelling to countries where their national team or club is playing and supports the Dutch-Belgian initiative for a ban on travelling by arrested hooligans to football matches considered to be a potential risk;
6. Asks the British Government to consider sharing the cost of transporting English hooligans back home by Belgian C 130 planes;
7. Expresses its solidarity with the 140 disabled persons who suffered discrimination and the seven journalists held in custody during this disturbing incident;
8. Calls on UEFA and other organisers to take all necessary measures to ensure that all citizens can attend sporting events in a safe and dignified manner;
9. Deplores the use of force against journalists doing their job and calls on the Dutch authorities to carry out a proper inquiry into the circumstances surrounding these events to determine who was responsible;
10. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Governments and Parliaments of the Member States and of the applicant states, and to the President of UEFA.