

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

Session document

4 October 2000

B5-0783/2000 }
B5-0787/2000 }
B5-0791/2000 }
RC1

JOINT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

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

- Konstantinos Hatzidakis, Antonios Trakatellis and Georg Jarzembowski on behalf of the PPE-DE Group
- Giorgos Katiforis and Mark Francis Watts on behalf of the PSE Group
- Elspeth Attwooll, Dirk Sterckx and Giovanni Procacci on behalf of the ELDR Group
- Theodoros J. J. Bouwmans on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group
- Alexandros Alavanos and Michail Papayannakis on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

replacing the motions by the following groups:

- PSE (B5-0783/2000),
- PPE-DE (B5-0787/2000),
- GUE/NGL (B5-0791/2000),

on the Greek ferry disaster

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PE 297.019}
PE 297.023}
PE 297.027} RC1

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European Parliament resolution on the Greek ferry disaster

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to the sinking of the ‘Express Samina’, which occurred on the night of Tuesday, 26 September near the island of Paros in Greece and which has to date claimed 79 lives, not counting a number of missing persons,
 - B. having regard to the judicial inquiry into the causes of the tragedy which has already commenced,
 - C. having regard to the exemptions granted to Greece in the maritime sector,
1. Expresses its deepest sympathy to and solidarity with the families of the deceased and the survivors of the shipwreck and extends its gratitude to those involved in the rescue operation;
 2. Notes the statement of the European Commission, which is waiting for the findings of the investigation into the causes of the shipwreck, and calls on the European Commission to ask the Greek authorities for all the information it has at its disposal about the reasons for and causes of the accident, as well as about the conformity with Community law of safety standards on board the ‘Express Samina’;
 3. Underlines the importance it attaches to the three Commission proposals regarding maritime safety, especially those relating to passenger vessels, namely the proposals on the classification societies and Port State Control, and awaits a new set of proposals on this issue;
 4. Awaits the evaluation by the Commission of the effectiveness of the Stockholm Agreement and other measures for improving the stability and safety of passenger vessels;
 5. Calls on the European Commission to consider the possibility of shortening the timetable set out in Directive 98/18/EC on safety rules and standards for passenger vessels, since these proposals on a few specific issues will not be implemented until 2009; urges the Commission to review the exemptions granted to Member States, including the exemptions from Directive 98/18/EC and from cabotage granted to Greece;
 6. Calls for immediate stricter implementation of Directive 98/41/EC, together with more stringent rules regarding compulsory training for ships’ crews in safety and emergency procedures;
 7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the Greek Government.