

European Parliament resolution embodying the opinion on the conclusion of the negotiations with Spain and Portugal (8 May 1985)

Caption: By resolution of 8 May 1985, the European Parliament gives its opinion on the Council's decision concerning the Community enlargement to include Spain and Portugal. The Parliament welcomes in particular the conclusion of the accession negotiations and declares its approval, with one exception, of the institutional agreements.

Source: Official Journal of the European Communities (OJEC). 10.06.1985, No C 141. [s.l.]. "Resolution embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the conclusion of the negotiations with Spain and Portugal", auteur:European Parliament , p. 130-131.

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European Parliament resolution embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the conclusion of the negotiations with Spain and Portugal (8 May 1985)

The European Parliament,

— having regard to the aide-mémoire from the Council of 16 April 1985 on the conclusion of the accession negotiations with Spain and Portugal,

— having been consulted by the Council pursuant to point 2.3.7 of the Solemn Declaration on European Union signed in Stuttgart ⁽¹⁾ (Doc. C2-14/85),

— having regard to the various resolutions on enlargement adopted by the European Parliament and in particular the resolutions of 18 January 1979, 17 November 1982, 17 January 1985 and 14 February 1985 ⁽²⁾,

— having regard to the report of the Political Affairs Committee (Doc. A2-20/85),

A. satisfied that the enlargement of the Community is in keeping with its original mandate to be open to all democratic European States which stand by peace and freedom and to create an ever-closer union between the peoples of Europe,

B. recognizing the great importance of enlargement both for the future of the Community and for that of Portugal and Spain,

C. convinced that, as the directly elected representative of the peoples of the States united in the Community, it is legally entitled and politically obliged to deliver an opinion on decisions concerning the applications for accession, on behalf of the citizens of that Community,

D. whereas it had wished to be consulted on the institutional questions directly affecting the European Parliament at an earlier stage, at which it could still have influenced the Community's final negotiating stance,

E. whereas this opinion relates only to the Council's decision concerning enlargement and does not anticipate Parliament's resolution on the ratification of the accession treaties negotiated by the contracting parties,

I. Conclusions of the negotiations

1. Welcomes the conclusion of the negotiations on the accession of Portugal and Spain;

2. Appreciates the efforts made by all those involved to reach agreement, despite some divergent interests on individual issues;

3. Hopes that the accessions will work to the advantage of the new Member States and their citizens and strengthen the Community internally and externally;

4. Expects the Community to fulfil the commitment it has given to the Mediterranean third countries and to cement relations with them through practical measures, placing these relations on a new and mutually satisfactory basis, in accordance with the guidelines submitted by the Commission on the Mediterranean policy of the enlarged Community;

II. Institutional agreements

5. Declares its approval, with one exception, of the agreements concerning the organs and institutions of the Community;

6. Approves in particular the following agreements regarding the three political institutions:

— that Portugal will send 24 and Spain 60 representatives to the European Parliament;

— that Portugal will appoint one Member and Spain two Members of the Commission;

— that for Council decisions requiring a qualified majority:

— the votes of the acceding countries will be weighted as follows: Portugal five; Spain eight;

— the number of votes necessary for a qualified majority will be 54 where the Treaty requires the decisions to be adopted on a proposal from the Commission;

— this number will be 54, cast by at least 8 Member States, in all other cases;

7. Emphasizes the great importance it attaches to equal voting rights in elections to the European Parliament for all the citizens of the Community and calls on the Council to request the acceding States as a matter of urgency to carry out the first direct elections to the European Parliament in their country where possible within one year of accession and at the latest to coincide with the first following national elections;

8. Deplores the fact that the governments of Member States did not make this plain during the negotiations for enlargement and warns that such contempt for the only elected international parliament is a bad augury for the future of the Community and for democracy;

III. *Opinion following consultation by the Council*

9. Welcomes the fact that the Council has accepted the Portuguese and Spanish applications for accession;

10. Calls on the contracting States to sign the Treaties of Accession and thereby set in train the process of ratification without delay, so that the scheduled date for accession of 1 January 1986 can be observed;

11. Reserves the right to adopt a resolution on the ratification of the Treaties of Accession after the treaties have been signed in the light of the texts thereof;

12. Calls on the parliaments of the contracting States to refer to the European Parliament's resolution on ratification in their ratifying legislation;

13. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the governments and parliaments of the contracting States, the Council and Commission.

(1) The Solemn Declaration on European Union signed by the heads of state or government of the Member States of the European Communities at the European Council meeting in Stuttgart of 19 June 1983, EC Bulletin No 6 1983, p. 24 *et seq.*

(2) OJ No C 39, 12.2.1979, p. 47.

OJ No C 334, 20.12.1982, p. 54.



OJ No C 46, 18.2.1985, p. 78.
OJ No C 72, 18.3.1985, p. 71.