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17th September, 1952

REQUEST FOR INCLUSION IN THE AGENDA OF THE SESSION - Methods of integrating refugee or surplus agricultural workers into the agricultural economy of the Member States of the Council of Europe

Request for inclusion in the agenda of the session¹

tabled by MM. von MERKATZ, SCHUTZ, PAUL, von GOLITSCHKEK

This motion has not been discussed in the Assembly and commits only those who have signed it

The Assembly,

Considering that the maintenance of a large and prosperous agricultural population is essential to safeguard the present and future prosperity of the nations of Europe,

Considering that the existence of an independent class of country-dwellers devoted to the land they cultivate is essential to the economic and political stability of the States of Europe,

Considering that the ever-increasing disproportion between town and country-dwellers represents a grave danger to the social and spiritual harmony of the nations of Europe,

Considering that several thousand European agricultural workers who have been expropriated, or are redundant, cannot in present circumstances find land to cultivate in Europe,

Being of the opinion that the absorption and rehabilitation of these persons is both a social duty and an urgent political necessity,

Being of the opinion that a genuine European Community presupposes a spirit of solidarity with respect to freedom of movement and settlement for the inhabitants of Europe,

Being of the opinion that the increase in food production desired by the international technical organisations can be achieved by a more rational utilisation of the potential agricultural manpower of certain countries,

Being of the opinion that, for humanitarian reasons, areas for settlement should be sought in Europe before recourse is had to outlets in overseas territories,

Decides to include the following question in its Agenda :

"Methods of integrating refugee or surplus agricultural workers into the agricultural economy of the Member States of the Council of Europe ",

and instructs its Committee on Population and Refugees to study, in co-operation with the Special Committee on Agriculture and with those international and national organisations concerned with this problem, measures for absorbing these persons into the agricultural life of the Member States.

Signed (see overleaf)

1. Question included in the Agenda of the Session and referred by the Assembly to the Committee on Population and Refugees, on 17th September, 1952, 14th Sitting.



Signed:

BOGGIANO PICO
CONCI
DE LA VALLÉE POUSSIN
EDERT
GERSTENMAIER
HEYMAN
HÔFLER
KRAHN-STÖVER
Lady TWEEDSMUIR
MONTINI
PAUL
PERNOT
PEZET
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SANTERO
SCHUTZ
SEHRARENS
VON GOLITSCHKEK
VON MEHKATZ
VON RECHENBERG
WEBER