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*(Information)*

## COUNCIL

## RESOLUTION

(84/C 159/01)

THE COUNCIL AND THE REPRESENTATIVES  
OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES  
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES, MEETING  
WITHIN THE COUNCIL,

Noting the conclusions of the Heads of State or of  
Government meeting in Paris on 9 and 10 December  
1974 which called for examination of the possibility  
of establishing a Passport Union and in particular of  
abolishing passport control within the Community,

Taking account, on the one hand, of the decisions  
taken on the basis of the Treaties establishing the  
European Communities and, on the other hand, of  
the practical steps already taken with the aim of  
facilitating the movement of nationals of the Member  
States,

Aware of the Community's objective, as defined in  
Article 3 (c) of the Treaty establishing the European  
Economic Community, of abolishing, as between  
Member States, obstacles to freedom of movement  
for persons carrying out an activity covered by the  
provisions of that Treaty,

Aware that the ever-closer union of the peoples of the  
Member States of the Community should, at the final  
stage of this process, find expression in free passage  
across the Community's internal frontiers for all  
nationals of those States,

Aware that the abolition of all checks on persons at  
internal frontiers, which is the aim of the Passport  
Union, means that at the same time it is necessary to  
resolve certain problems peculiar to the creation of  
such a Union, such as the transfer of checks on  
persons from internal frontiers to external ones, the  
admission of nationals of non-Community countries,  
including the harmonization of provisions on visas  
and effective cooperation between Member States on  
public security,

Anxious to achieve this aim without interfering with  
the necessary checks justified for security reasons,  
and bearing in mind the problems facing certain

Member States in connection with checks on entry  
into their territory,

Recalling the resolution of 23 June 1981 in which the  
representatives of Governments of the Member States  
of the European Communities, meeting within the  
Council, considered that the establishment of a  
passport of uniform design was likely to facilitate the  
movement of nationals of the Member States,

Considering that a step in the gradual implementation  
of this objective should be to try to make it easier for  
nationals of Member States to cross frontiers,

Considering that, to this end, it is necessary to:

- seek as far as possible a reduction in the waiting  
time for checks and in the duration itself of the  
checks,
- ease as far as possible checks on their nationals  
living close to the Community's internal frontiers,

HAVE ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

The Member States shall take appropriate measures  
to reduce waiting time and the duration of checks to  
the minimum necessary, if they have not already done  
so. To this end they may, for instance:

- set up special check-points for the nationals of the  
Member States, if crossing-time would be reduced  
as a result,
- carry out any checks which are considered  
necessary on these nationals by means of spot  
checks, unless this is not possible for reasons of  
public security.

To make it easier for nationals of the Member States  
to cross internal frontiers, the checking authorities  
shall consider that presentation of the passport of

uniform design permits a presumption of belonging to a Member State, without prejudice to the rights attached to other documents provided for in existing conventions, including, in particular, the identity card.

Member States may conclude local agreements in order to make it easier for people living close to the Community's internal frontiers to cross frontiers.

On the basis of a report drawn up by the Commission, possibly accompanied by proposals, the Council and the representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Communities, meeting within the Council, will assess the implementation of this resolution within four years of its adoption. In the light of this assessment, they will take any other measures needed for the gradual implementation of the objective of free passage across the Community's internal frontiers for Member State nationals.

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