

RESOLUTION

on the protection of the rights of the individual in the face of developing technical progress
in the field of automatic data processing

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the communication of the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. SEC(73) 4300),
- having regard to the interim report of the Legal Affairs Committee (Doc. 487/74),
- having regard to Rule 37 of the Rules of Procedure,

1. Considers that a Directive on 'individual freedom and data processing' is an urgent necessity, not only to ensure that Community citizens enjoy maximum protection against abuses or failures of data processing procedures, but also to avoid the development of conflicting national legislation;
2. Gives its approval to the establishment of a special committee of members of the European Parliament which shall be authorized to examine this problem and to consider proposals relating to:
 - (a) the methods of gathering personal information stored in data banks,
 - (b) the right of the individual to see and dispute the stored information,
 - (c) the desirability of applying common standards to private and national data banks,
 - (d) the prevention of unauthorized access to and use of stored information,
 - (e) the control of dissemination of information contained in data banks,
 - (f) the effective application of sanctions for infringement of individual privacy,
 - (g) such related matters as may be thought relevant;
3. Recommends that:
 - (a) this committee should be composed of nine members including a chairman and a rapporteur and that it should be provided with adequate secretarial services,
 - (b) this committee should, on completion of its preparatory studies, invite written representations from interested parties and proceed to public hearings of relevant expert witnesses at such place as this committee may deem opportune, and report;
4. Invites the cooperation of the Commission and of all other interested bodies in the preparation and presentation of evidence to this committee;
5. Urges the Commission in the light, of the special committee report, to give early attention to the preparation of a Directive designed to protect the individual Community citizen from abuses in the storing, processing and dissemination of personal information by means of automatic data banks in both the public and the private sectors;
6. Invites its President to attend to the implementation of paragraphs 2 and 3 of this resolution;
7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution and the report of its committee to the Council and Commission of the European Communities.