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**Press Release**

For Immediate Release:  
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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT PASSES HISTORIC RESOLUTION CALLING FOR  
U.S. AND RUSSIA TO HALT SPIRALING NUCLEAR SUBMARINE ARMS RACE

EUROPEANS CRITICIZE SUPERPOWERS FOR FAILURE TO CLEAN UP  
"FLOATING CHERNOBYLS" AND CALLS FOR UNITED NATIONS  
MONITORING OF LOST NUCLEAR MATERIAL AT SEA

RESOLUTION TO HALT "GLOBAL DANGER" OF NUCLEAR SUBMARINE  
INTRODUCED BY INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR TECHNOLOGY  
ASSESSMENT (CTA) AND ITS GLOBAL CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR FREE  
SEAS

RESOLUTION BASED ON CTA'S UNPRECEDENTED STUDY ON ALL  
NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND REACTORS LOST AT SEA SINCE 1969

Washington D.C. -- Today, November 16, 1995, the European Parliament (EP) passed historic Resolution calling for the major superpowers to halt the spiraling submarine nuclear arms race. The Parliament cited the failure of the United States and Russia to prevent and clean up the legacy of "floating Chernobyls." The Resolution represents the first time international legislative body has called for immediate negotiations to avoid the environmental impact of lost nuclear weapons and reactors at sea. The EP also urges the United States and other naval powers to inform the United Nations of all nuclear material lost at sea.

The Resolution also calls on the EP to hold its first ever hearings on the "full scope" of the maritime nuclear threat to global security and global environment. The Resolution originally drafted and introduced by the International Center for Technology Assessment

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(CTA). The Resolution passed today was based on an unprecedented study by the CTA's Global Campaign for Nuclear Free Seas which comprehensively lists and describes all nuclear weapons and reactors lost at sea. In its Resolution the EP specifically recognizes CTA's unique contribution to the Parliament. The Resolution instructs, "its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the governments and parliaments of the member states, the governments of the United States, Russia and China, and the International Centre for Technology Assessment."

The CTA study reveals that:

- there have been 13 direct collisions between the United States, Russian/Soviet, French, British and Chinese nuclear submarines and nuclear submarines and military surface ships since 1965;
- 43 Soviet and 7 US nuclear warheads have been lost at sea;
- there have been 612 accidents involving US nuclear submarines alone;
- 19 Russian and United States nuclear reactors and reactor screens from damaged nuclear submarines have been dumped at sea; and
- the Russian Northern and Pacific fleets have accumulated approximately 30,000 spent fuel assemblies, equivalent to the contents of about 140 nuclear reactor cores, yet there are only enough storage facilities for another three reactor cores.

Commenting on this historic vote in the European parliament, CTA's Director for Defense and Security Policy Kay van der Horst stated, "The Cold War nuclear legacy has for decades been hidden under a shroud of military secrecy. Today's action by the EP is the first ever to address this unprecedented threat to global environment and security, and the maritime food chain."

"The CTA's report demonstrates that nuclear submarines are among the world's most hazardous weapons," van der Horst continued.

"CTA is dedicated to finally bringing the principal naval powers to the negotiating table to put an end to this continuing danger to the lives of the world's citizens and generations to come," van der Horst continued.

CTA's Director Andrew Kambrell stated, "It is our hope that today marks the beginning of the end for the use of nuclear weapons and reactors at sea."

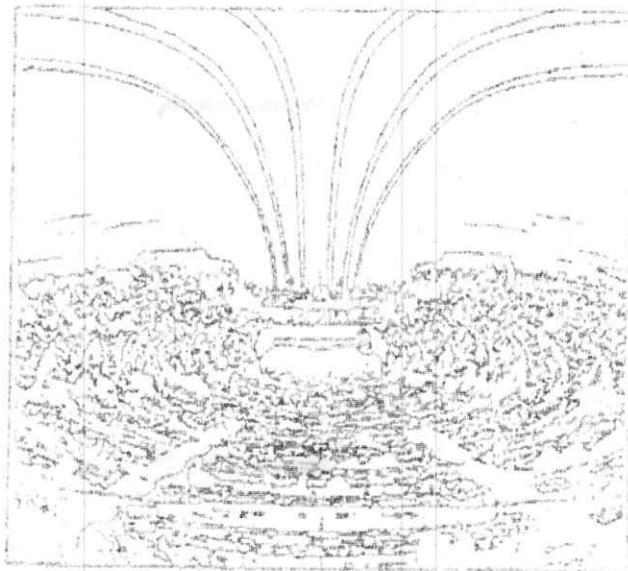
The International Center for Technology Assessment (CTA) was formed in 1994 to help policy makers and the general public better understand how technology affects people's lives. The CTA is devoted to a holistic analysis of technology, which requires full exploration of the economic, social, environmental and political impacts that result from the adoption of new technological systems in society. Through in-depth analyses, the CTA provides valuable and timely information on technology's potential costs and benefits.

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# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



1995 - 1996



## MINUTES

Sitting of

Thursday

16 November 1995

PV 49

PROVISIONAL EDITION

PE 195.171

DA DE EL **EN** ES FR IT NL PT FI SV

of the UPE Group,  
Cox, on behalf of the ELDR Group,  
Ahern, McKenna, Lannoye, Breyer and Bloch, on behalf of the V Group,  
Ewing, on behalf of the ARE Group,

to replace these motions with a new text:

The different parts of the text were adopted in order, para. 1 by separate vote (UPE).

Parliament adopted the resolution (Part II, Item 8(f)).

*Nuclear submarines*

- MOTIONS FOR RESOLUTIONS B4-1367, 1378 and 1392/95:  
 joint motion for a resolution tabled by the following Members:  
 Morris and d'Antonio, on behalf of the PSE Group,  
 Gillis and Virgin, on behalf of the PPE Group,  
 Pimenta, on behalf of the ELDR Group,  
 González Álvarez, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group,  
 McKenna and Aelvoet, on behalf of the V Group,  
 Vandemeulebroucke, on behalf of the ARE Group,

to replace these motions with a new text:

Parliament adopted the resolution (Part II, Item 8(c)).

**20. Human rights (vote)**

Motions for resolutions B4-1367, 1399, 1400, 1375, 1379, 1396, 1366, 1381, 1397, 1412, 1416, 1367, 1394, 1418/95.

*Bosnia*

- MOTIONS FOR RESOLUTIONS B4-1367, 1399, 1400/95:  
 joint motion for a resolution tabled by the following Members:  
 Pery, on behalf of the PSE Group, von Habsburg, de Brémont d'Arc, on behalf of the  
 PPE Group, Pasty, on behalf of the UPE Group,  
 Bertens, on behalf of the ELDR Group,  
 Piquet, Puerta, au nom du groupe GUE/NGL,  
 Aelvoet, Tarnino, on behalf of the V Group,  
 Lalumière, on behalf of the ARE Group,

to replace these motions with a new text:

Parliament adopted the resolution (Part II, Item 9(a)).

*Algeria*

- MOTIONS FOR RESOLUTIONS B4-1375, 1379 and 1386/95:  
 joint motion for a resolution tabled by the following Members:  
 Kouchner, on behalf of the PSE Group,  
 de Brémont d'Arc, on behalf of the PPE Group,  
 Elmahan, Sierra González, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group,  
 Cohn-Bendit, on behalf of the V Group,  
 Pradier, Vandemeulebroucke, on behalf of the ARE Group,

to replace these motions with a new text:

Resolution on the environmental threat of nuclear submarines, especially Russian ones

The European Parliament,

- A. having regard to the statement by Alexei Yablokov, Chairman of the Russian Zoological Safety Commission and adviser to President Yeltsin, that many submarines of the Russian Navy are "floating Chernobyls" and "environmental catastrophes", which as Admiral Oleg Yerofojev stated "could sink at any time",
  - B. having regard to the near melt-down of several nuclear submarine reactors on 20 September 1995 at a nuclear submarine base on the Kola Peninsula, caused by a negligent and deliberate electricity shut-down,
  - C. whereas the 1993 report of the Russian nuclear state inspectorate made it clear that "submarines awaiting decommissioning have practically become floating spent-fuel stores" which are in an "unsatisfactory" condition and that "sinking is a real possibility",
  - D. whereas the Russian Northern and Pacific Fleets have accumulated approximately 30,000 spent fuel assemblies, equivalent to the contents of about 140 reactor cores, and whereas there are only enough storage facilities for another three reactor cores,
  - E. whereas there is a real danger to European and global environmental safety due to the dumping of 19 Russian and United States nuclear reactors and reactor cores from damaged nuclear submarines, and one nuclear reactor from the atomic ice-breaker "Lenin", in the North Atlantic, North Pacific, and Arctic Oceans,
  - F. mindful of at least 13 direct collisions between United States, Russian/Soviet, French, British and Chinese nuclear submarines and nuclear submarines and military surface ships since 1965, two of which occurred after the end of the Cold War, the loss of seven nuclear reactors at sea when nuclear-powered submarines sank during normal operations, the loss of 43 Soviet and seven US nuclear warheads and 612 accidents involving US nuclear submarines alone,
  - G. having regard to the fact that measures against nuclear pollution are part of the TACIS programme in Russia,
1. Urges the main naval powers to inform the United Nations about nuclear weapons and reactors lost at sea, and calls on the Commission and Council to make clear that negotiations to halt the global danger emanating from lost nuclear weapons at sea should start immediately;
  2. Calls on the Council and the Commission to expand EU assistance to and cooperation with Russia to avoid further nuclear catastrophes,
  3. Resolves that its competent committees will hold hearings on the full scope of this nuclear threat for global security and the global environment;
  4. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the governments of the United States, Russia and China, and the International Centre for Technology Assessment.

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