Uniform Electoral System for the European Elections

The Congress of European Liberals and Democrats,

- aware that the establishment of a uniform electoral system for the European elections would greatly contribute to the creation of a common European identity,

- convinced that such a system must be based on the principle of proportional representation,

- aware that unfair electoral systems in various EC countries, and in Great Britain in particular, prevent Liberals and Democrats and others from having an adequate representation in the European Parliament,

- aware in particular that Liberal and Democratic parties won nearly 10 million votes and 32 parliamentary seats in the last European elections, whereas conservative parties won 6 million votes and 50 seats,

- aware of the manoeuvres in the European Parliament to delay or water down the adoption of a resolution calling for a uniform electoral system based on proportional representation,

1. calls upon the Liberal and Democratic Group in the European Parliament to continue its fight for a uniform electoral system based on genuine proportional representation,

2. calls upon the EC Council of Ministers to adopt such a system before the direct elections of Spanish and Portuguese members of the European Parliament,

3. calls upon the EC Council of Ministers to rule out clauses allowing member states to derogate from the uniform system albeit permitting minor adjustments to take account of particular regional situations,

4. calls upon the Liberal and Democratic Group to propose in the European Parliament that funds for the European elections in 1989 be refused to those countries that will not adhere to a common electoral system.