

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

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0050/2008

## WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Marusya Ivanova Lyubcheva, Zita Gurmai, Diana Wallis, Eva-Britt Svensson and Anna Záborská

on combating the trafficking of children

Lapse date: 9.10.2008

**0050/2008**

**Written declaration on combating the trafficking of children**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Articles 34 and 35 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child,
  - having regard to the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings,
  - having regard to the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union,
  - having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas child trafficking is still a persistent problem, with more than two million children annually trafficked for forced labour and sexual exploitation,
- B. whereas the development of new communication technologies increases the trafficking in children, making the managing of this phenomenon more difficult,
- C. whereas national authorities and NGOs in the Member States are still not acting efficiently against child trafficking, due to insufficient cross-border cooperation, lack of specialised training or inadequate implementation of existing legal standards,
1. Calls on the Member States to recognise the fight against child trafficking as a priority objective in their national child protection policies;
  2. Calls on the European Parliament and the Council to provide the necessary resources in the framework of the Commission's strategy on promoting and safeguarding children's rights;
  3. Calls on the Member States to continue actively cooperating and exchanging knowledge and experience with the relevant EU authorities and NGOs, in order to prevent and combat child trafficking, and provide adequate treatment for victims of such trafficking;
  4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council and the Commission.