



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Plenary sitting

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure
on the European Year of Islands

Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE)

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on the European Year of Islands

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the objectives laid down in the Commission communication entitled ‘Innovation in the Blue Economy: realising the potential of our seas and oceans for jobs and growth’ (COM(2014)0254),
 - having regard to the key findings of the final report of the ESPON 2013 Programme, entitled ‘The Development of the Islands – European Islands and Cohesion Policy (EUROISLANDS)’,
 - having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas there are 403 European islands with a population of more than 50, and a further 266 with a population of less than 50;
- B. whereas the economic performance of the majority of islands is below the corresponding national average, with islands’ average GDP per capita standing at just 79.2 % of the European average;
- C. whereas the majority of islands are not attractive for economic activities and/or residence, and whereas they continue to lose their active and young population;
- D. whereas islands have a significant level of natural and cultural assets (specific habitats, endemic species, monuments, sites, landscapes, etc.);
1. Calls on the Commission to propose the European Year of Islands.