



Plenary sitting

29.05.2015

B8-0500/2015

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure

on encouraging the reading of printed books in the European Union

Dominique Bilde, Sophie Montel

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on encouraging the reading of printed books in the European Union

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas, according to a study, in 2008 readers in France read on average five books fewer per year than their 1973 counterparts, even though the proportion of French people with a university degree rose from 14 % in 1973 to 31 % in 2008;
- B. whereas more than 300 000 people in France and almost 500 000 in Europe work in publishing, if those indirectly involved in the industry, such as authors and booksellers, are also counted;
- C. whereas the publishing industry's turnover is falling every year;
- D. whereas the rise of e-books has meant growing competition for printed books and is benefiting big multinationals at the expense of traditional publishing houses;
- 1. Calls on the Commission to encourage or support Member States in launching awareness-raising campaigns to promote reading;
- 2. Urges the Commission to do whatever is necessary to make reading something which everyone can do, while also protecting traditional publishing houses and promoting the reading of printed books;
- 3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council and the Member States.