



Plenary sitting

B8-1423/2016

3.1.2017

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure

on social media networks and problems with anxiety and depression

Mireille D'Ornano

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on social media networks and problems with anxiety and depression

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 168 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
- having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas 2.14 billion people around the world use social media networks, and whereas, according to the Pew Research Center, 89% of persons aged between 18 and 29 use a social media network, as against only 49% of persons aged over 65 (USA, 2014);
- B. whereas the use of social media networks has been linked to an increased risk of suffering problems with anxiety and depression, and whereas, according to the findings of a study carried out by researchers at Brown University (USA, 2016), 82% of the 264 young adults questioned had had at least one negative experience linked to Facebook, a factor which multiplied by three the risk of suffering depression;
- C. whereas membership of a wide range of social media networks may make people more vulnerable to problems with anxiety and depression, given that, according to the findings of a study conducted by researchers at Pittsburgh University (USA, 2016), people who use between 7 and 11 social media networks are three times more likely to develop such problems;
- 1. Urges the Commission, through the work of the relevant EU agencies, and the Member States to monitor the impact of social media networks through their education policies and to draw up recommendations for EU citizens.