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*Plenary sitting*

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**B8-0022/2017**

3.1.2017

# MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure

on *Mycobacterium leprae*

**Mireille D'Ornano**

**Motion for a European Parliament resolution on *Mycobacterium leprae***

*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 leprosy is an infectious disease caused by *Mycobacterium leprae* and 176 176 cases have been diagnosed in 138 States (2015);
- B. whereas according to the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (United States), around 16% of nine-banded armadillos in the United States carry *Mycobacterium leprae*;
- C. whereas between 150 and 200 cases of leprosy are diagnosed every year in the United States, 70% of which can be attributed to infection acquired abroad, but transmission from nine-banded armadillos to humans has been confirmed in a 2011 study carried out by the Global Health Institute (Switzerland) and Louisiana State University, which examined 33 nine-banded armadillos and 50 leprosy patients;
- D. whereas a study carried out in the United Kingdom (published on 11 November 2016) reported that around 21% of the dead squirrels tested were carrying *Mycobacterium leprae* and 11% were showing symptoms;
- E. whereas 95% of people are naturally immune to *Mycobacterium leprae*, but transmission through animals is still possible;
- 1. Encourages the Commission to publish a study on the risk linked to animals carrying *Mycobacterium leprae*.