



Plenary sitting

B8-0264/2019

7.5.2019

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure
on preserving Europe's religious heritage

Dominique Bilde

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on preserving Europe's religious heritage

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 3 of the Treaty on European Union,
 - having regard to the Convention concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) of 16 November 1972,
 - having regard to Resolution 2038 (2014) of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe,
 - having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas around half the sites on the UNESCO World Heritage List, including several cathedrals, are located in Europe¹; whereas, according to the Special Eurobarometer 466 of December 2017, 84% of respondents claimed that cultural heritage was of personal importance to them², and whereas, according to a 2014 survey conducted by Future for Religious Heritage, four out of five respondents considered religious buildings to be essential³;
- B. whereas, according to the French Observatory of Cultural Heritage, 500 religious buildings in France are under threat and around 5000 are in disrepair, and whereas, according to *Le Figaro*, 'more than two thirds of the projects undertaken by the Cultural Heritage Foundation involved religious heritage sites'⁴;
1. Calls on the Commission and the Council to support EU action to preserve religious heritage sites, particularly Christian sites, in keeping with the powers conferred on the Member States.

¹ [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2018/621876/EPRS_BRI\(2018\)621876_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2018/621876/EPRS_BRI(2018)621876_EN.pdf)

² https://europa.eu/cultural-heritage/toolkits/special-eurobarometer-europeans-and-cultural-heritage_en

³ <https://www.frh-europe.org/religious-heritage-central-to-european-culture-and-identity-the-committee-of-the-regions-states-in-an-opinion/>

⁴ <http://premium.lefigaro.fr/actualite-france/en-france-plus-de-5000-eglises-sont-menacees-de-delabrement-20190424>