WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

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on a foreign policy, security and defence union

Lapse date: 30.4.2007
Written declaration on a foreign policy, security and defence union

The European Parliament,

– having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,

A. whereas the European Union has become a trading, economic and monetary power but is not yet a political force,

B. whereas it is essential for the European Union to build on its progress thus far by setting itself the aim of becoming a political union that enjoys influence in world affairs,

1. Calls for:

– the European Union to undertake to establish a foreign policy, security and defence union;

– preparations to be made for this union by the end of 2007 and for the decision establishing it to be adopted before the next European Parliament elections in 2009;

2. Considers that it should be equipped with the following:

– a European Foreign Minister, who would be Vice-President of the Commission, assisted by a European diplomatic service and a Minister of State for Defence;

– integrated embassies and consulates;

– a common arms policy and joint financing of programmes;

– joint defence forces that would genuinely enable the European Union to act autonomously;

3. Considers that the political union should be in place by 2014 at the latest;

4. Believes that the draft Constitutional Treaty is an important step in this direction;

5. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission and the Council.