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WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on improving emergency cooperation in recovering endangered missing children and improving child alert mechanisms in the EU Member States

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Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on improving emergency cooperation in recovering endangered missing children and improving child alert mechanisms in the EU Member States¹

1. 250 000 children are reported missing in the EU each year. When a child is abducted and killed, in 76 % of cases the child was murdered within three hours of the abduction. The search for an endangered missing child often stagnates at internal borders. 37.5 % of Europeans live in border areas.
2. When the public are asked to search for a missing child that is in imminent and serious danger, it is crucial that this is done as soon as possible.
3. The Council and the Commission are therefore called upon to subscribe to the 5-point plan proposed by AMBER Alert Europe (the European Child Rescue Alert and Police Network on Missing Children).
4. The Commission is hence called upon to make every effort to encourage the practice whereby, when a child is at risk in a border area, or law enforcement agencies suspect that the child has crossed an internal border, law enforcement agencies, border authorities and the public in the other country are informed immediately.
5. This declaration, together with the names of the signatories, is forwarded to the Council and the Commission.

¹ Under Rule 136(4) and (5) of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, where a declaration is signed by a majority of Parliament's component Members, it is published in the minutes with the names of its signatories and forwarded to the addressees, without however binding Parliament.