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WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on establishing a European Cravat Day

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Lapse date: 11.7.2016

Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on establishing a European Cravat Day¹

1. Europe is the place of origin of the necktie, the forerunner of the cravat, which was then popularised by Croatian cavaliers.
2. The cravat, an elegant neckband peculiar to the uniform that used to be worn by Croatian soldiers, was adopted at the French court and in the course of time became an indispensable item of clothing whose popularity gradually spread throughout Europe and all over the world.
3. The cravat has long been characteristic of Europeans, standing for European spirit and European values, and with the passing of time has become a symbol of European fashion.
4. The fact that the tradition already exists for each country holding the Council presidency to issue its own distinctive tie, worn to mark its term of office, suggests that the necktie is also perceived as a symbol of the EU.
5. Calls on the Commission to establish a 'European Cravat Day' in order to recognise this elegant item of clothing as part of Europe's cultural heritage, identity, communication and design, and to allow European nations to preserve and strengthen their bonds with each other and their links to the world at large.
6. 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.