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## WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on heart failure

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Lapse date: 24.1.2017

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**Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on heart failure<sup>1</sup>**

1. Heart failure (HF) is a shared strategic challenge. Affecting 15 million Europeans, HF is the most frequent cause of hospitalisation in those over 65. One in five people risk developing HF in their lifetime.
2. Without concerted prevention, HF cases will increase by 25 % by 2030.
3. The risk and burden of HF can be significantly reduced through multidisciplinary care, lifestyle changes, and patient engagement and self-management. These can promote health and quality of life, and reduce costs.
4. HF patients often do not receive quality care according to recognised clinical guidelines, and major inequalities persist across Europe.
5. Few governments have adopted national plans for HF.
6. Both the public and health professionals have a very low awareness of HF – only 3% of Europeans can correctly identify the symptoms.
7. The Commission is therefore called upon to consider initiatives aiming to:
  - encourage Member States to create comprehensive national plans to drive improvement and collect adequate data on HF;
  - create a Europe-wide strategy to support public awareness, patient advocacy, and exchange of research and best practice in HF;
  - support training on HF among GPs and internists, and specialisation and accreditation of training for nurses and allied health professionals.
8. This declaration, together with the names of the signatories, is forwarded to the Council and the Commission.

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<sup>1</sup> 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.