

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Bogusław Rogalski, Bogdan Pęk and Ryszard Czarnecki

on forced labour camps in Italy

Lapse date: 1.2.2007

0078/2006

Written declaration on forced labour camps in Italy

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - A. having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10 December 1948,
 - B. whereas forced labour camps have operated in Italy in 2006 and in previous years,
 - C. whereas this practice is widespread and Polish citizens have been subject to inhumane treatment, including forced labour, the extortion of protection money, severe beatings, rape, forced prostitution and even the sentencing of 'disobedient' workers,
 - D. whereas international people trafficking has taken place within these Italian camps,
 - E. whereas *carabinieri* from local police stations are suspected of having taken part in these savage practices,
1. Strongly condemns the exploitation of workers and enforced labour;
 2. Thanks the Honorary Consul of Poland, Domenico Centrone, the prosecutor, Lorenzo Lerario, and police in both countries for their assistance in freeing Polish citizens;
 3. Calls on the local authorities in whose area slave labour camps were built to step up their inspections of farms and places employing a large number of foreign citizens;
 4. Calls on the Member States to eradicate all labour camps and to prevent the setting-up of such camps in future;
 5. Calls on Eurojust to set up an international team to monitor progress in the investigation into the Italian labour camps, which should look into suspected local police cooperation with the camp operators;
 6. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission, the European Council and the Italian Government.