

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

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10.10.2007

0089/2007

## WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Frank Vanhecke, Philip Claeys, Koenraad Dillen

on the statements by members of the Commission concerning internal political developments in the Member State Belgium

Lapse date: 24.1.2008

0089/2007

**Written declaration on the statements by members of the Commission concerning internal political developments in the Member State Belgium**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas some members of the Commission have expressed the fear that a possible splitting-up of Belgium could have a 'contaminative effect' on other European regions, such as the Basque country and Catalonia,
- B. whereas the head of the Commission's representation in Belgium has stated that some French-speaking Europeans in the 'Flemish Belt' around Brussels fear the impact of a split on their everyday lives and fear for the survival of the arrangements which exist for linguistic minorities,
- 1. Considers that the European Union consists of national democracies and that the European institutions have a duty to respect the internal political, constitutional and legislative developments which result from free, fair and secret elections in the individual Member States;
- 2. Stresses in this respect that both members of the Commission itself and their subordinate officials have a duty to maintain political neutrality and must refrain from making political comments and statements about internal political developments in a Member State;
- 3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council and Commission.