

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Daniel Stroj, Jiří Maštálka and Jaromír Kohlíček

on rejecting the politicisation of history and the instrumentalisation of ideology
aimed at discrediting and suppressing the European Left

Lapse date: 7.5.2009

Written declaration on rejecting the politicisation of history and the instrumentalisation of ideology aimed at discrediting and suppressing the European Left

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - A. whereas Members of the European Parliament from certain right-wing parties repeatedly seek to achieve the same ‘historical’ condemnation of communism and Nazism at Parliament, thereby ideologising history with the intention of creating a tool with which to discredit and suppress the European Left, which advocates the concepts of social justice, humanity and equal cooperation between the nations of Europe,
 - B. whereas the above-mentioned tendency to ideologise history is supposed to find its institutional expression in the establishment of a pan-European institute intended to compare ‘communism’ and Nazism,
 - C. whereas ‘communism’ and Nazism have been discussed by society as a whole both in the countries of the former Eastern Bloc and in the West over many years, this discussion clearly showing that the two ideologies and their historical social, economic and political forms cannot and should not be compared,
 - D. whereas various so-called totalitarianism research institutes set up under various names in certain eastern European countries have clearly proven to be tools in the political fight against the Left and for discrediting and persecuting it, these ‘historical institutes’ working on the basis of clear political orders,
1. Calls on the Member States and the bodies and institutions of the EU to leave the research of ideologies and of their historical dimensions, including communism and Nazism, to independent scientific institutions and independent political scientists and historians;
 2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the governments of the Member States, the Commission and the Council.