



14.6.2010

0048/2010

WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure

on the living conditions of single parent families within the EU Member States during the economic crisis

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Lapse date: 14.10.2010

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Written declaration on the living conditions of single parent families within the EU Member States during the economic crisis

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 153 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (formerly Article 137 TEC),
 - having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the rising number of divorces and separations contributes significantly to increasing the number of single parent families with dependent children who are most exposed to poverty risk,
- B. whereas the increasing number of single parent families – one of the consequences of the financial and economic crisis – leads to changes in the structure of society and damages traditional social values,
- C. whereas a lack of financial resources in single parent families could affect the chances the children have to continue their education and jeopardises therefore their chances of a decent life and job,
1. Calls on the Commission to assess the situation of single parent families in the EU, focusing on the living conditions of children, and to include, within the EU 2020 Strategy, the measures that Member States should adopt in this regard;
 2. Invites Member States to develop strategies to tackle the situation of single parent families;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission and the governments of the Member States.