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## WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on promoting the consumption of fruit and vegetables

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**Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on promoting the consumption of fruits and vegetables<sup>1</sup>**

1. The Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) provides for a high level of health and consumer protection through public policies, including information and education activities, which should complement national policies.
2. The consumption of fruit and vegetables (hereinafter F&V) in Europe has registered a considerable decline, standing at only 30 %-50 % of the recommended daily intake of F&V, while 22 million children are overweight as a result of a high intake of saturated fatty acids and sugars, compounded by a sedentary lifestyle.
3. The volume of F&V production has decreased in recent years while production costs have increased, thus intensifying the current crisis in the sector.
4. The Union requires coordinated actions to consolidate the consumption of F&V beyond schools and families.
5. The Commission and the Council are hence called upon to commit, through policies and initiatives, to promoting the consumption of local and seasonal F&V and to supporting local producers in the food supply chain.
6. 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.