

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

[for entry in the register](#)

pursuant to Rule 51 of the Rules of Procedure

by Marie Anne Isler Béguin, Jan Wiersma, Hans Modrow, Charles Tannock
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on a programme of Community action to assist the residents of the areas
contaminated by Chernobyl

Expiry date: 6 May 2004

26/2004

Written declaration on a programme of Community action to assist the residents of the areas contaminated by Chernobyl

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 51 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. concerned at the ecological damage caused by Chernobyl, the radioactive contamination from which has devastated parts of countries (Russia, Belarus and Ukraine) which are soon to be the EU's neighbours,
- B. aware that the sheer scale of the human, environmental and economic disaster is unprecedented and that repairing the damage will not be possible with the scant resources available to the former Soviet states concerned (and is in any case a challenge which those states' authorities refuse to meet or which they downplay),
- C. aware of the fact that young people's bodies are particularly sensitive and vulnerable to the damaging effects of radioactivity which even affects an individual's genetic inheritance,
- 1. Calls upon the Commission to:
 - do its duty by providing support for the continent of Europe and offering humanitarian assistance to endangered populations in the form of a medical-aid programme which takes into account the 'resource poverty' of the countries concerned, the nature of the populations involved and the EU's financial and hospital capacities and resources,
 - introduce, for the benefit of the children in the areas exposed to radiation, a programme of residential treatment in Community hospitals and other healthcare facilities, and to arrange medical assistance and follow-up for them,
 - provide hospitals and scientists in the areas concerned with the necessary medical and technical equipment and resources;
- 2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration to the Council and Commission and to the national and regional authorities concerned.