

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Konrad Szymański, Philippe Morillon, Charles Tannock, Ari Vatanen
and Bastiaan Belder

on the protection of subsidiarity in European and overseas health care
policies

Lapse date: 3.7.2006

PE 372.502

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Written Declaration on the protection of subsidiarity in European and overseas health care policies

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the national reservations recorded therein,
 - having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas subsidiarity is one of the founding principles of the European Union,
- B. whereas the WHO has defined reproductive health rights as including access to fertility regulation methods including 'interrupting unwanted pregnancies',
- C. whereas there has been no international agreement on the recognition of 'reproductive rights' as human rights, nor does such a consensus exist within the EU,
1. Calls on the EU institutions to fully respect the national sovereignty of Member States, and to ensure that health, including reproductive health, policy remains an issue of national subsidiarity and that no pressure is placed on candidate or accession countries in this regard;
 2. Calls on the EU institutions, under external actions, to avoid promoting reproductive health policies considered detrimental or illegal within EU Member States,
 3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission and the Member States.