

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Bogusław Rogalski

on the violation of human rights by the German authorities and courts

Lapse date: 12.10.2006

0048/2006

Written declaration on the violation of human rights by the German authorities and courts

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - A. having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10 December 1948,
 - B. whereas one of the European Union's basic objectives is to prevent discrimination on the grounds of racial or ethnic origin, in line with Article 13 of the Treaty establishing the European Community,
 - C. having regard to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,
 - D. whereas German officials and courts repeatedly violate human rights by hindering contact between Polish parents divorced from a German spouse and their children,
 - E. whereas the Jugendamt – the department for child and youth welfare – behaves in an anti-Polish manner, including by prohibiting conversations in Polish between divorced Polish parents and their children during arranged meetings, which are always attended by Jugendamt officials,
 - F. whereas Polish parents divorced from a German spouse are treated in the same way as paedophiles and denied the right to bring up their children simply because they are not of German nationality and because of the preconception that the German language and culture are superior to their Polish counterparts,
1. Strongly condemns all forms of racism shown by the German authorities;
 2. Calls on the Commission and Council to carry out a thorough investigation into the behaviour of the Jugendamt;
 3. Calls on the Federal Republic of Germany to:
 - a) explain the disgraceful behaviour of its officials and to condemn it,
 - b) ensure equal rights for people of Polish ethnicity, in line with international conventions;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the German Government, the Commission and the European Council.