

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Elisabetta Gardini

on mental health and rehabilitation priorities for growing children

Lapse date: 7.5.2009

Written Declaration on mental health and rehabilitation priorities for growing children

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas in Europe one minor in four develops infantile neuropsychiatric problems, and whereas mental health problems are the pathologies which most frequently affect human beings,
- B. whereas in childhood prompt rehabilitation is vital to guaranteeing a full recovery,
- C. whereas each Member State must make adequate arrangements to prevent neuropsychiatric problems in growing children, and whereas a political commitment in this area is vital,
- 1. Calls on the Council, the Commission and the governments of the Member States to regard the prevention of neuropsychiatric problems among growing children as a European public health priority, and urges the Member States to draw up separate, modern legislation on mental health and rehabilitation for growing children which is not linked to legislation on children's health or adult mental health, making provision for measures specific to this area;
- 2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission, the governments of the Member States and the national, regional and local authorities concerned.