



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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## WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure  
on declaring a European Year of Wine Tourism

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Lapse date: 25.2.2010

**Written declaration on declaring a European Year of Wine Tourism**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the Communication from the Commission entitled ‘Agenda for a sustainable and competitive European tourism’ (COM(2007)621),
  - having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 479 of 29 April 2008, on the common organisation of the market in wine, and the inclusion therein of measures to promote European wine,
  - having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas, within the European Union, the wine sector constitutes an economic activity of the first order, and accounts for almost 70% of the world market in wine,
- B. whereas, in commercial terms, wine is undergoing a major shift away from being a basic foodstuff and becoming a ‘cultural opportunity’,
- C. having regard to the specific, deep link which exists between vineyards and the territories where wine is produced,
- D. whereas 1990 was declared European Year of Tourism,
- E. whereas wine and speciality-food tourism has undergone a remarkable expansion in the last few years, attracting some 20 million people to Europe’s territories and regions,
- F. whereas the Common Agricultural Policy is more and more directed towards the enhancement and protection of the countryside, thanks to the transfer of funds from the first to the second pillar,
1. Calls for the proclamation of a European Year of Wine Tourism;
  2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council and the Commission.