



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

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10.9.2012

0030/2012

## WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure  
on freedom of religion

**Erminia Mazzoni, Carlo Casini, Jarosław Wałęsa,**

Lapse date: 13.12.2012

**Written declaration on freedom of religion**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Articles 2, 3, 6 and 21 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU),
  - having regard to Article 17 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU),
  - having regard to the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union,
  - having regard to its resolution of 18 April 2012 on the Annual Report on Human Rights in the World and the European Union's policy on the matter,
  - having regard to its recommendation of 13 June 2012 on the EU Special Representative for Human Rights (EUSR),
  - having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas freedom of thought, conscience and religion is one of the founding principles of the European Union, which is therefore committed to combating any kind of discrimination, intolerance and violence in relation to such matters,
- B. having regard to the relentless chain of massacres affecting religious communities throughout the world,
1. Condemns any form of persecution based on religion;
  2. Calls on the EU Special Representative for Human Rights to promote measures aimed at combating violence against and persecution of all religious communities, by leading consultation initiatives with third countries and promoting coordinated action with all international organisations;
  3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the High Representative of the EU, the Special Representative for Human Rights, the Commission and the parliaments of the Member States.