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WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on fighting youth unemployment in the EU

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Lapse date: 7.6.2016

Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on fighting youth unemployment in the EU¹

1. Youth unemployment continues to be one of the main challenges in the Union, with a rate of 21.4 % across the Union (figures from April 2015).
2. Around 13.7 million young people are neither in regular employment nor in education or training programmes.
3. A number of initiatives have been prioritised by the Union's institutions to fight youth unemployment, particularly initiatives under the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI).
4. While a drop of 1.5 % was registered last year in the number of youth unemployed across the Union, more actions and funds are needed to create high-quality job opportunities for young people.
5. The Commission is called upon to examine the possibility of promoting further initiatives to improve access for young people to high-quality jobs and vocational training, to extend the target beneficiaries of YEI by including people under 30, and to increase the funding for the YEI to EUR 12 billion in the next two years.
6. This declaration, together with the names of the signatories, is forwarded to the Council and the Commission.

¹ Under Rule 136(4) and (5) of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, where a declaration is signed by a majority of Parliament's component Members, it is published in the minutes with the names of its signatories and forwarded to the addressees, without however binding Parliament.