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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 48 of the Rules of Procedure

by Mary Banotti

on the adoption of measures for the repatriation of mortal remains

PE 320.282

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on the adoption of measures for the repatriation of mortal remain

The European Parliament,

- A. whereas EU citizens are moving more and more between EU Member States and inevitably there is an increase in the transfer of mortal remains between Member States,
- B. whereas the existing agreements on the transfer of corpses (Strasbourg September 1973 and Berlin 1937) are still not in force in all Member States,
- C. whereas the delays in the repatriation of mortal remains cause considerable distress to the families concerned and constitute a breach of fundamental rights,
- D. whereas the Commission has not included proposals concerning the repatriation of mortal remains in its Annual Legislative Programme and does not envisage any specific initiative for the moment¹,
- E. whereas competence for measures to ensure that citizens' rights are not violated may exist under the Treaties, in particular in the field of justice and home affairs,
 - 1. Calls on the Commission to examine, consulting with third parties, the need for specific EU measures to ensure that citizens' rights are not violated by excessive delays in the repatriation of mortal remains,
 - 2. Calls on the Commission to present an action plan and specific legislative proposals concerning the repatriation of mortal remains.

¹ Response of Commissioner Bolkenstein 25 March 2002 to Michael Cashman - E0073/02, (see also response to Roy Perry H-0125/02 and to Mary Banotti E2465/00 OJ C136E, 08.05.2001 p 40)