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PROPOSAL FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL

pursuant to Rule 114(1) of the Rules of Procedure

by Rosa M. Díez González

on behalf of the PSE Group

on the draft EU drugs strategy (2005-2012)

European Parliament recommendation to the Council on the draft EU drugs strategy (2005-2012)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the meeting of the JHA Council of 2 and 3 December 2004, at which a draft EU drugs strategy for the period 2005-2012 is to be considered,
 - having regard to the European Council of 17 December 2004, at which the draft EU drugs strategy for the period 2005-2012 is to be adopted,
 - having regard to Rule 114(1) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the framework and priorities laid down in the new EU drugs strategy are to serve as a basis for two consecutive three-year EU action plans to combat drugs (2005-2007 and 2009-2011), each to be followed by a one-year period of evaluation (2008 and 2012),
- B. whereas an essential aspect of drugs policy within the EU consists in improving cooperation between EU institutions,
- C. whereas it is important to seize this opportunity to encourage and develop effective, comprehensive policies to combat drugs,
1. Addresses the following recommendations to the Council:
- a) establish a genuine European policy to combat drugs, focussed on reducing supply and demand, and on the provision of information and evaluation;
 - b) encourage and develop harm reduction policies in the Member States, without preventing individual Member States from adopting measures or conducting pilot schemes in this area;
 - c) strictly verify compliance with the clause relating to combating drugs in international agreements and, to that effect, ask that 'essential clause' status be accorded;
 - d) see to it that the draft action plans to combat drugs (2005-2007 and 2009-2011) are drawn up by the Commission in cooperation with the European Parliament, the EMCDDA and Europol and in consultation with relevant civil society organisations;
2. Instructs its President to forward this recommendation to the Council and, for information, to the European Council and the Commission.