

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Session document

22.1.2009

B6-0064/2009

PROPOSAL FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL

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

by Kathalijne Maria Buitenweg and Monica Frassoni

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

on the confiscation of financial assets and property of criminal organisations
and the need for their reuse for social purposes

European Parliament recommendation to the Council on the confiscation of financial assets and property of criminal organisations and the need for their reuse for social purposes

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 114(1) of its Rules of Procedure,
 - A. whereas mafias and organised crime in general have become a transnational phenomenon and constitute a serious emergency in all the Member States,
 - B. having regard to the social, cultural, economic and political impact that criminal organisations are having on Member States and neighbouring countries,
 - C. whereas, if it is to be truly effective, the fight against organised crime should also be waged at the social level, in cooperation with civil society and democratic institutions,
 - D. whereas some Member States have significant experience in this area, based on joint action by civil society and democratic institutions which has produced groundbreaking legislation enabling the assets of organised criminals to be seized and used for social purposes, and whereas organised criminals are increasingly operating in countries bordering on the EU,
 - E. welcoming Commission communication COM(2008)0766 on the confiscation of financial assets and property of criminal organisations, and strongly encouraging the Commission to put forward a legislative proposal on that basis which includes provisions on the reuse of those assets and property for social purposes,
1. Addresses the following recommendation to the Council:
 - (a) adopt at the earliest opportunity legislation on the confiscation of financial assets and property of international criminal organisations and their reuse for social purposes, with such legislation being based on a proposal to be put forward by the Commission as a follow-up to the above communication;
 - (b) act as prime mover and support civil society and institutions in their efforts to combat mafias;
 2. Instructs its President to forward this recommendation to the Council and, for information, to the Commission.