

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 51 of the Rules of Procedure

by Umberto Scapagnini, Francesco Musotto, Raffaele Lombardo and Giuseppe Nisticò

on the continuing influx of illegal immigrants and refugees into the European Union

Lapse date: 8 July 2002

05/2002

Declaration on the continuing influx of illegal immigrants and refugees into the European Union

The European Parliament,

- A. whereas the continuing influx of illegal immigrants and refugees into the European Union is likely to undermine any serious and effective immigration policy on the part of the EU or its Member States,
- B. pointing out that the Mediterranean Member States, in particular Italy, are most exposed to this problem,
- C. concerned at the serious and continuing human rights violations suffered by people in third countries overseas,
- D. convinced of the need for a real and effective policy to control international criminal organisations that are unscrupulously running illegal immigration networks, exploiting the personal and collective plight of entire peoples,

1. Calls on the European Commission:

to provide a range of financial assistance to enable Member States to put in place temporary reception facilities for refugees and illegal immigrants

- to draw up an action plan for the Mediterranean, based on the experience gained from the recent arrivals of refugees and illegal immigrants in the south of Europe and, in particular, on the eastern and western coast and the islands of Sicily, particularly in the city of Catania, to avoid situations of this kind occurring again;
- to do everything possible to block, including by means of cooperation with local police forces and on-the-spot deployment of Member States police forces, and prevent ships carrying illegal immigrants and refugees from sailing;

2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration to the Commission.