

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 51 of the Rules of Procedure

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on a democratic and free Iran

Deadline: 13 September 2003

14/2003

Declaration on a democratic and free Iran

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 51 of the Rules of Procedure,
- A. having regard to recent events showing that while increasing numbers of Iranians take every opportunity to demonstrate their opposition to clerical rule and their desire to live in a democratic society, thereby risking their freedom and ultimately their lives, the Iranian regime has been stepping up its campaign of internal repression, torturing and executing dissidents, promoting a secret nuclear programme, sponsoring international terrorism and as a result destabilising neighbouring countries, in particular Israel and Iraq,
- B. whereas seven years after the election of a so-called reformist government it is now clear that nothing has changed for the better, and that democracy, human rights and peace are incompatible with the theocratic regime,
- C. whereas many people, including Members of the US Congress, are calling for a free and democratic Iran,
- 1. Calls on the European Council to urge the Iranian authorities to respect the human and civil rights of Iranian citizens, to allow for full international inspections of its nuclear programme and to stop its attempts to promote theocratic governments in Iraq and elsewhere in the Middle East;
- 2. Calls on the European Council to urge the Iranian authorities to allow a free referendum supervised by independent international observers on the establishment of democracy;
- 3. Calls on the European Council to proceed to an extensive review, in light of new developments and existing information, of the list of Iranian terrorist organisations, in order not to penalise those who seek the establishment of a democratic regime and to prevent the spread of terrorist activity by Iranian-sponsored organisations;
- 4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration to the Council and the Commission.