

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

22 September 2003

20/2003

WRITTEN DECLARATION

for entry in the register

pursuant to Rule 51 of the Rules of Procedure

by Philip Claeys and Koenraad Dillen

on the holding of referenda on Turkey's possible accession to the European Union

Lapse date: 22 December 2003

PE 336.517
Or. nl

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 51 of the Rules of Procedure,
 - A. whereas Turkey is neither historically, culturally nor geographically a European country,
 - B. whereas the President of the European Convention stressed this obvious truth,
 - C. whereas a number of opinion polls have indicated that the majority of European citizens are opposed to Turkey's accession to the European Union,
 - D. whereas the outcome of the Swedish euro referendum proves that public opinion can differ markedly from the views expressed in the media and by businessmen and politicians, and that the referendum is therefore the method of choice for reinforcing the democratic legitimacy of the European Union,
1. Insists that the European Union should take account of the opinions of its inhabitants;
 2. Calls on the European Council to urge the national governments to hold referenda in the Member States on the occasion of the European elections in June 2004 on a question with such far-reaching implications as Turkey's possible membership of the European Union.