

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1999



2004

26 January 2004

4/2004

WRITTEN DECLARATION

for entry in the register

pursuant to Rule 51 of the Rules of Procedure

by Hiltrud Breyer, Alexander de Roo, Marie Anne Isler Béguin,
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on noise from airports

Date of expiry: 26 April 2004

PE 341.430

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The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 51 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. considering that noise is one of the most serious threats to health, especially for children;
- B. considering that almost one third of the population of the European Union is already affected by noise;
- C. considering that more than ten million people suffer in Europe from aircraft noise and that even if a decrease in noise is possible through technical improvements, the enormous increase in the number of flights will counteract the effects of these;
- D. considering that noise from landings and take-offs is particularly harmful during the night;
- E. considering that a good night's sleep is a human right, as declared by the European Court of Human Rights;
- F. considering that there is a risk of competition between airports to the prejudice of residents in the affected areas if decisions to ban night flights are taken at national or regional level;

The European Parliament asks:

1. that the utmost priority be given to the health of European citizens;
2. the European Commission to propose legislation banning night flights between 11.00 p.m. and 7.00 a.m. at all airports in the European Union.