

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

*1999*



*2004*

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21 April 2004

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## **WRITTEN DECLARATION**

pursuant to Rule 51 of the Rules of Procedure

by Carmen Cerdeira Morterero

on access for the disabled in the 2004 European Elections

Expiry date: 6 May 2004

**Written declaration on access for the disabled in the 2004 European Elections**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Rule 51 of its Rules of Procedure,
  - having regard to Article 13 of the Treaty establishing the European Community, concerning non-discrimination,
- A. whereas there are 50 million disabled people in the enlarged European Union, suffering from a whole range of disabilities,
  - B. whereas the European disability model needs to be based on a broad concept of human rights, and consist of a combination of global legislation on non-discrimination, proscribing all forms of discrimination faced by disabled people,
  - C. whereas the European elections of June 2004 are very close,
  - D. whereas people who suffer from this specific disability need special help on the part of individuals with specialised training and skills,
1. Urges the governments of the Member States and the Commission to adopt the wherewithal to promote the relevant legislative reforms, so as to guarantee the active electoral participation of people with disabilities;
  2. Calls on the various political groups to take account of the proposals submitted by associations of the disabled and their families with regard to disability-related issues, both when drawing up their electoral programmes and during their electoral campaigns;
  3. Urges the Commission and the Member States to collaborate on designing polling booths which respect universal access criteria;
  4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission, the Council and the governments of the Member States.