

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 51 of the Rules of Procedure

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on the fight against Alzheimer's disease and brain diseases

Expiry date: 6 May 2004

Written declaration on the fight against Alzheimer's disease and brain diseases

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 51 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas Alzheimer's disease and other neuro-degenerative diseases affect millions of European citizens, who are eventually unable to manage alone,
- B. whereas these diseases have tragic human, economic and social consequences,
- C. whereas brain diseases account for approximately one-third of the total burden of disease,
- D. whereas the fight against brain diseases and neuro-degenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's and help for sufferers are seriously underfunded,
- E. whereas a policy shift is therefore required in the areas of research, education, health care, prevention and social protection,
- 1. Calls on the Commission, the Council and the governments of the Member States to do everything in their power to combat brain diseases and help sufferers and, in particular, to:
 - allocate a significant proportion of funding for research in life sciences to the brain and brain diseases and, in particular, neuro-degenerative diseases and Alzheimer's, and make specific provision for this in the seventh framework programme;
 - direct medical research programmes more towards these diseases,
 - put in place a system of social protection providing practical (care homes) and financial help for sufferers and their families;
 - set up a European monitoring centre for brain diseases.
- 2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission, the Council, the governments of the Member States and the national, regional and local authorities concerned.