

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



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## WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Geoffrey Van Orden, Elmar Brok, Alexandra Dobolyi and Alexander  
Lambsdorff

on the incarceration in Libya of Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor

Lapse date: 15.3.2005

**Written declaration on the incarceration in Libya of Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the European Union's founding principles of liberty, democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the rule of law,
- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas five Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor were arrested by the Libyan authorities in 1999 as suspects in a criminal case related to HIV/AIDS infection,
- B. whereas Bulgaria is a candidate country for accession to the European Union,
- C. whereas on 6 May 2004 the medical personnel were sentenced to death,
- D. whereas the Bulgarian government has taken active steps to find a suitable solution through dialogue and negotiation with the Libyan government,
- E. whereas Libya is working towards reintegration into the international community and normalisation of relations with the European Union,
- F. whereas the sentence and conditions of imprisonment are having serious adverse effects on the medical personnel,
- 1. Expresses its deepest sympathy for those suffering from HIV/AIDS;
- 2. Calls on the Council of the European Union, the European Commission and the Member State governments to intervene on behalf of the imprisoned medical personnel in order to bring about their release as a matter of urgency;
- 3. Implores the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya urgently to respond to international concerns and to review the case of the imprisoned medical personnel with a view to their early release;
- 4. 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 Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.