

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Chris Davies, Nigel Farage, Timothy Kirkhope, Jean Lambert and
Gary Titley

on the Council of Ministers and secretive law-making

Lapse date: 5.12.2005

Written declaration on the Council of Ministers and secretive law-making

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas European Union legislators should not meet in secret when debating draft new laws,
- B. whereas every EU head of government has indicated support for the principle that the Council of Ministers should deliberate in public when considering draft legislative acts,
- C. whereas a change to the Council of Ministers' rules of procedure, requiring a simple majority of votes in the General Affairs Council, is all that is necessary to introduce this improved practice,
- 1. Calls on the Council of Ministers to apply the principles of openness and transparency to its legislative work by making the necessary change to its rules of procedure;
- 2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Presidency of the Council.