

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

24.10.2005

0059/2005

WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Daniel Stroj, Miloslav Ransdorf and Jaromír Kohlíček

on the critical situation of Czech literature and Czech writers

Lapse date: 24.1.2006

Written declaration on the critical situation of Czech literature and Czech writers

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the status of original Czech literature and of Czech writers is very poor in comparison with the status of literature and of writers in other Member States of the European Union and is getting worse all the time,
- B. whereas high-quality original Czech literature of all genres is subjected to harmful market pressure, is viewed as nothing more than a commodity and is progressively disappearing,
- C. whereas the situation is made still worse by the systematic political, social and media segregation of critically-minded or left-wing writers and intellectuals, as well as by the absence of political, media and institutional recognition of the Union of Czech Writers as a properly registered and fully functioning artistic organisation,
- D. whereas there is evidence that the Czech state media is stifling artistic diversity and plurality of opinion by excluding left-wing writers and intellectuals in particular,
 - 1. Instructs its President to ask the supreme legislative and executive authorities of the Czech Republic to remedy without delay the situation outlined above;
 - 2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the supreme authorities of the Czech Republic.