

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

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## WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Raül Romeva i Rueda, Gérard Onesta, Carlos Carnero González, Luis Yañez-Barnuevo García

on the thirtieth anniversary of the death of the dictator Francisco Franco in Spain

Lapse date: 12.3.2006

**Written declaration on the thirtieth anniversary of the death of the dictator Francisco Franco in Spain**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the European Union is to a large extent the outcome of struggles for democracy and human rights in Europe, such as Spanish society's struggle to protect the legitimate Republican government which came under attack in the 18 July 1936 coup d'état - an event which caused civil war to break out and led to the establishment of the Franco dictatorship,
- B. whereas thirty years after Franco's death, certain facts still need to be borne in mind and both justice and redress to be sought,
- C. whereas democracy in Spain would not have been possible without the contribution made by the anti-Franco movement and the battle fought against the dictatorship by thousands of men and women, many of whom ultimately paid with their lives, spent years in prison, suffered torture or harassment, or saw their commitment socially sidelined,
  1. Declares that the EU should be constructed on the basis of the recognition and the preservation of the memory of the thousands of men and women who, as in Spain, suffered through their support for democracy;
  2. Asserts that public policies which promote the recovery and the nurturing of Spain's democratic memory and culture must be promoted within an EU framework;
  3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission and the Council.