EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Daniel Strož

on improper attempts to exert political influence over intellectual property rights

Lapse date: 12.3.2006

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Written declaration on improper attempts to exert political influence over intellectual property rights

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the Commission is considering an application by Czech producers for the name 'Karlovarské oplatky' (Karlovy Vary wafers) to be registered as a designation of origin pursuant to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2081/92 on the protection of geographical indications and designations of origin for agricultural products and foodstuffs,
- B. whereas this application has given rise to improper interference aimed at influencing the Commission and at ensuring that the aforementioned designation of origin is not registered on behalf of Czech producers,
- C. whereas a German political grouping, the 'Sudetendeutsche Landsmannschaft' (Sudeten German Association), which has sought, continually and over a long period of time, to harm the interests of the Czech Republic, is behind this interference,
- 1. Calls on the Commission, when considering the application for the registration of 'Karlovarské oplatky' as a designation of origin, to proceed in strict accordance with Council Regulation (EEC) No 2081/92 of 14 July 1992 and not to yield to improper political influence;
- 2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission and the Member States.

