

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

---

20.2.2006

0011/2006

## WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Rodi Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou, Robert Navarro, Dirk Sterckx and Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert

on European Maritime Day

Lapse date: 20.5.2006

**0011/2006**

**Written declaration on European Maritime Day**

*The European Parliament,*

– having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,

- A. whereas 20 EU Member States are coastal states and whereas maritime transport is a key link to the whole European alternative transport mode and trade system,
  - B. whereas the European maritime sector controls more than 40% of the world fleet with direct employment of more than 1.5 million people and a turnover of more than EUR 160 billion,
  - C. whereas the Lisbon Strategy and the European neighbourhood policy call for the further development of an efficient transport system in which the maritime sector is a key element,
  - D. whereas European citizens are not sufficiently aware of developments in the maritime sector and its interaction with other policies,
1. Calls on the Commission to take the initiative of suggesting that a European Maritime Day be celebrated every year;
  2. Calls on the Member States to promote European Maritime Day within national policies in order to raise awareness of the importance of the European maritime sector to the European economy and Europe's development;
  3. Stresses that it is essential to provide wide-ranging information on the maritime sector, especially for the promotion of European shipping know-how, maritime training, the maritime industry and the work and careers of qualified European seafarers;
  4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission, the Council and the Member States.