

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Roger Helmer, Ashley Mote, James Allister and Anna Záborská

on the rights of women in Saudi Arabia

Lapse date: 30.6.2006

Written declaration on the rights of women in Saudi Arabia

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the EU is concerned to extend and promote human rights around the world,
- B. whereas the European Parliament is eager to defend the rights of women everywhere,
- C. whereas the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and subsequent conventions and declarations, prescribe equal rights for men and women,
- 1. Concludes that the prohibition on women driving cars in Saudi Arabia represents blatant discrimination and a serious violation of women's rights;
- 2. Calls on the European Commission to bring forward a proposal to ban all Saudi Arabian men from driving within EU Member States until such time as women are permitted to drive in Saudi Arabia;
- 3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission, and the Government of Saudi Arabia.