

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Daniel Stroj

on condemnation of the activities of former Nazis and their supporters in
certain EU Member States

Lapse date: 3.7.2006

0022/2006

Written declaration on condemnation of the activities of former Nazis and their supporters in certain EU Member States

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - A. whereas on 16 March 2006 another now traditional demonstration by former Nazis – members of the Waffen-SS – and their supporters was held in Riga, the capital of Latvia,
 - B. whereas until last year these demonstrations and associated actions by people who participated in the Nazi war of extermination and the Holocaust had taken place with the consent and support of the state authorities in Latvia, including police protection for the above-mentioned demonstrators,
 - C. whereas similar demonstrations by former members of the Waffen-SS and their supporters are at least officially tolerated not only in Latvia, but also in Estonia, for example, where demonstrators from Lithuania have also taken part,
 - D. whereas it is vital to reject altogether the entirely fallacious defence that members of the Waffen-SS in the Baltic States fought for the freedom of those countries, as this would also imply that the war started and waged by the Nazis was a war of liberation,
 - E. whereas there is evidence that members of the Waffen-SS from the Baltic States participated both in the aggressive acts of war carried out by Hitler's Germany and in the mass murder of the Jews,
1. Expresses deep concern at the activities of former Nazis in Latvia and Estonia in particular and utterly condemns such activities;
 2. Calls on the governments and legislative authorities of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania to prevent actively any further demonstrations by former Nazis and their supporters commemorating the status and activities of former members of the Waffen-SS as 'freedom fighters';
 3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the governments and legislative authorities of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania.