

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

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## WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Maciej Giertych

on the protection and preservation of the Catholic Cathedral of Bucharest

Lapse date: 3.11.2006

**Written declaration on the protection and preservation of the Catholic Cathedral of Bucharest**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Article 151 of the EC Treaty,
- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas, under the terms of Article 151 of the EC Treaty, the Community shall be aimed at encouraging cooperation between Member States and, if necessary, supporting and supplementing their action in the conservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage of European significance,
- B. whereas, six meters away from the walls of the historic St Iosif Catholic Cathedral in Bucharest, a high-rise commercial building is being erected illegally,
- C. whereas the construction of the commercial building is threatening the structural integrity and soundness of the St Iosif Catholic Cathedral, in an over-populated and congested area,
- D. whereas, after protests from citizens of Bucharest, the State Inspectorate for Constructions concluded that the project does not comply with legal requirements, but the work on the construction has not been discontinued,
- E. whereas the Holy See officially protested against the illegal construction of the building on 4 May 2006,
- 1. Joins in the protest by Romanian citizens against the illegal construction of the commercial building that is a threat to the structural soundness of the St Iosif Catholic Cathedral;
- 2. Calls on Romania and the City of Bucharest to take all the necessary measures to stop the illegal construction of the intrusive building and preserve and maintain the Cathedral in order to allow the citizens of Bucharest unhindered access to their place of worship, which is a major cultural heritage site;
- 3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission, the Council, the Government of Romania and Bucharest City Council.