

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

25.9.2006

0065/2006

WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Renato Brunetta

on the commencement of negotiations with a view to Israel's accession to the European Union

Lapse date: 18.1.2007

Written declaration on the commencement of negotiations with a view to Israel's accession to the European Union

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas resolving the Israeli-Palestinian question calls for stability and peace to be brought to the Middle-East region and the Mediterranean area, and whereas this will require a qualitative leap forward in the European Union's involvement in the peace process,
- B. whereas the security of Israel can be guaranteed only by that country's full integration into the European Union,
- C. whereas, as acknowledged in the preamble to the EU-Israel Association Agreement of 20 November 1995, Israel's domestic and international policy is guided by respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,
- D. whereas Israel and the European Union are natural partners in that they share the same values of democracy and respect for human rights, the rule of law and fundamental freedoms,
- E. whereas on 13 December 2004 Israel became the first country to reach agreement on an action plan within the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy,
- 1. Considers that Israel can be a potential candidate for EU membership;
- 2. Calls on the Commission to open negotiations with a view to adjusting the Israeli Action Plan to include the prospect of accession and the requirements therefor, along the lines of the Association and Stabilisation Process (ASP) for the Western Balkans;
- 3. Calls on the Council and Commission to ensure that the commencement of the Israeli accession process goes hand in hand with further development of the European Neighbourhood Policy for Middle-Eastern countries and with direct aid for the Palestinian people;
- 4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the Government of Israel and the governments of the other countries in the Middle Eastern area.