

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Aldo Patriciello

on abolishing admission quotas at universities

Lapse date: 18.1.2007

0069/2006

Written declaration on abolishing admission quotas at universities

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - A. whereas the right of everyone to education and professional training is recognised in Article 14 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union,
 - B. whereas admission quotas are an inappropriate mechanism which fails to take account of the legitimate aspirations of young Europeans and the rights which they enjoy as European citizens, and thus violates Article 14 of the Charter,
 - C. whereas this mechanism seriously complicates the efforts being made by the Union to facilitate mobility among European students,
 - D. whereas, in addition to hampering the ambitions of young Europeans wishing to study at university, the mechanism also strongly penalises Community citizens in general who, if there were no such restriction, would be able to benefit from a more competitive environment and firmer guarantees as to the professional skills on offer,
 - E. whereas setting a limit on student numbers only in specific faculties results in discrimination between different occupations, violates the free-market principle and actively deters people from taking certain degree courses,
1. Considers admission quotas to be in breach of Article 14 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union;
 2. Calls on the Commission to take steps, in keeping with the fundamental rights guaranteed by the European Union, to resolve this situation;
 3. Calls on the Council to consider the matter within the appropriate bodies;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the parliaments of the Member States.