

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Elmar Brok, Nicole Fontaine, Bronisław Geremek, Jo Leinen and Íñigo Méndez de Vigo

on a foreign policy, security and defence union

Lapse date: 30.4.2007

Written declaration on a foreign policy, security and defence union

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - A. whereas the European Union has become a trading, economic and monetary power but is not yet a political force,
 - B. whereas it is essential for the European Union to build on its progress thus far by setting itself the aim of becoming a political union that enjoys influence in world affairs,
1. Calls for:
 - the European Union to undertake to establish a foreign policy, security and defence union;
 - preparations to be made for this union by the end of 2007 and for the decision establishing it to be adopted before the next European Parliament elections in 2009;
 2. Considers that it should be equipped with the following:
 - a European Foreign Minister, who would be Vice-President of the Commission, assisted by a European diplomatic service and a Minister of State for Defence;
 - integrated embassies and consulates;
 - a common arms policy and joint financing of programmes;
 - joint defence forces that would genuinely enable the European Union to act autonomously;
 3. Considers that the political union should be in place by 2014 at the latest;
 4. Believes that the draft Constitutional Treaty is an important step in this direction;
 5. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission and the Council.