

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

28.3.2007

0035/2007

WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Karin Riis-Jørgensen, Silvia Ciornei, Simon Coveney, Lissy Gröner and
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on the creation of an EU-wide hotline for the victims of human trafficking

Lapse date: 28.6.2007

0035/2007

Written declaration on the creation of an EU-wide hotline for the victims of human trafficking

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to article 29 of the Treaty on the European Union,
 - having regard to the Council Framework Decision of 19 July 2002,
 - having regard to the Council Directive adopted on 29 April 2004,
- A. whereas, given that the European Union strengthens citizens' rights, special consideration should be given to the most vulnerable groups, namely all victims of human trafficking,
- B. whereas victims of human trafficking deserve the right to talk to and receive assistance from an impartial listener without fearing judgement by the police regarding the chain of illegal activities caused by the victim's situation or without apprehending the reaction of their families,
- C. whereas the establishment of a telephone hotline for all victims of human trafficking can help to improve the situation of these victims and can be an important tool against abuse and violence,
- D. whereas listening to the victims is the first step towards providing them with psychological and practical assistance,
1. Reiterates its call for a multilingual EU hotline with a single, toll-free European number for victims of human trafficking;
 2. Calls on the Commission, Council and Member States to support the creation of this hotline as an essential part of the fight against human trafficking;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission, Council and Parliaments of the Member States.