

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

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28.3.2007

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## WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Cristian Stănescu

on the racist and xenophobic attack by Maurizio Zamparini

Lapse date: 28.6.2007

**Written declaration on the racist and xenophobic attack by Maurizio Zamparini**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas, on 11 March 2007, Maurizio Zamparini severely criticised the Romanian footballer Adrian Mutu for a goal scored against his team in the match between Palermo and Fiorentina while a Palermo player was on the pitch injured, saying, the day after the match, "Mutu is a clever gypsy, he was crafty. In fact, all Romanians are crafty. We were the chickens and they the foxes",
- B. whereas nothing can justify this racist attack against a Romanian footballer and, more seriously, against Romania as a nation and member of the European Union, and especially against the Romanian community working in Italy,
- C. emphasising the troubling nature of these developments, which has been evidenced by one of the most prestigious Italian newspapers, *Il Tempo*, which published a shocking article on Romanians on 3 October 2006 ("Romanians are considered the most violent and dangerous of races, capable of killing for a handful of small change"),
- D. noting the offensive statement by the chairman of the Sicilian club, which represents an unprecedented attack that might lead to acts of violence, racism and xenophobia and may have terrible consequences not only at football stadiums in Italy but also in social terms,
  1. Calls on the Commission and the Council to take its position into account in order to avoid encouraging this type of racist and xenophobic statement, which may lead to outright inter-ethnic warfare since it is mainly at football stadiums that this new confrontation is developing;
  2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission, the Council and the organisations responsible for upholding human rights, being institutions which combat racism and racial discrimination.