

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Geoffrey Van Orden, Struan Stevenson, Ivo Strejček, Syed Kamall, and
Nina Škottová

on referendums on the Constitution in each Member State

Lapse date: 6.9.2007

0041/2007

Written declaration on referendums on the Constitution in each Member State

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the EU Laeken Declaration of 15 December 2001 which called for the EU to become more democratic, transparent and efficient,
 - having regard to the Berlin Declaration of 25 March 2007,
- A. recognising that there is now a regrettable drive to introduce a revised version of the European Constitution,
- B. whereas this is likely to contain key elements of the previous rejected draft, aimed at consolidating the over-arching power of the EU, creating a permanent President and a Foreign Minister of the EU, extending the *acquis communautaire* and the reach of the ECJ,
- C. recognising that the wholehearted consent of our citizens should be sought and established for any significant constitutional change,
1. Calls on the Heads of Government of all EU Member States to put any European Constitution or EU Treaty or 'renewed common basis' for the EU, containing any more than technical adjustments to accommodate enlargement, to a direct popular vote or referendum of electors separately in each of their countries,
 2. Insists that any such Treaty should have the consent of a majority of voters separately in each and every EU Member State,
 3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission and the Heads of Government and Parliaments of the Member States.