

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

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on "dys"crimination and social exclusion affecting children with "dys"abilities

Lapse date: 25.10.2007

Written declaration on "dys"crimination and social exclusion affecting children with "dys"abilities

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - A. whereas it is estimated annually that more than 10% of children are affected by one or other "dys"-type disability such as dysphasia, dyspraxia, dyslexia, dyscalculia or attention deficit disorder, etc., and whereas the statistics on these disorders need to be refined,
 - B. whereas this type of "dys" handicap, which badly impairs communication from a very early age, goes unidentified in many Member States,
 - C. whereas research, including in the 7th framework research programme, into these learning disabilities must be stepped up,
 - D. whereas the only way to prevent resultant "dys"crimination against affected children is to give them special, early, intensive and multidisciplinary treatment in appropriate structures (either in the normal school environment with appropriate special care, or in a specialised establishment),
1. Asks the Commission and Council:
 - to draw up a charter for "dys" children,
 - to encourage the recognition of "dys"-type problems as a handicap,
 - to promote best practices regarding:
 - making information accessible,
 - taking timely steps to spot, screen, systematically diagnose and treat these disorders at an early stage,
 - designing effective pedagogical structures within both the ordinary and the specialist educational environment for young children, adolescents and young adults,
 - adapting structures for integrating young people with these disabilities into the world of work,
 - to promote and encourage the creation of a European multidisciplinary network on specific learning difficulties, and by this means to collect and study information and promote the coordination of cross-border actions, as well as institutional dialogue.
 2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission and the parliaments of the Member States.