

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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## WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Tomáš Zatloukal

on the Castle and Pleasure Gardens at Kroměříž (Czech Republic)

Lapse date: 13.3.2008

**Written declaration on the Castle and Pleasure Gardens at Kroměříž (Czech Republic)**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the UNESCO Convention of 16 November 1972 concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage,
  - having regard to the European Council Framework Convention of 27 October 2005 on the value of cultural heritage for society,
  - having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the conservation and the development of cultural heritage must be regarded as integral to the EU's general objectives as set out in Article 2 of the EC Treaty,
- B. whereas cultural heritage is something fundamental, since it is bound up with the identity and the historical development of Europe's nations,
- C. whereas the Castle Garden and the Pleasure Garden at Kroměříž (both of which appear on the list of UNESCO World Heritage sites) are in a very poor state as a result of natural disasters,
- D. whereas adequate investment at the right time enables more costly financial solutions to be avoided and often prevents irreversible damage from occurring,
1. Acknowledges cultural heritage to be a basic value for the people of Europe and the conservation thereof to be essential to the cultural enrichment of future generations;
  2. Calls upon the Council and the Commission to support the establishment of instruments designed to protect Europe's cultural heritage;
  3. Calls upon the Czech Government to take the necessary steps in order to rescue the gardens in question, which are unique;
  4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission and the Member States' parliaments and governments.