

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Daniel Stroj and Jaromír Kohlíček

on limiting US military presence in Europe

Lapse date: 16.4.2008

0001/2008

Written declaration on limiting US military presence in Europe

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - A. whereas moves are currently being made, regardless of the common foreign and security policy which is one of the pillars of the EU, to significantly strengthen American military presence in Europe, reflected amongst other things in the plans to install US military bases in the Czech Republic and Poland,
 - B. whereas there are legitimate grounds for fearing that this reinforcement of the US military presence in Europe is not intended to increase the safety of EU citizens, but pursues entirely distinct American interests,
 - C. whereas EU citizens should be involved in the settlement of major political, but also defence-related, issues affecting the EU by direct democratic means, which is essential if their interest in events and decisions in the EU is to be maintained and strengthened,
 - 1. Believes strongly that the American military presence in Europe should not be expanded, but cut back, and that all significant military matters should be settled exclusively in the framework of the common foreign and security policy, not separately with individual Member States of the EU;
 - 2. Calls on the Member States on whose territory the new US military bases are to be located to reconsider their agreement to this deployment and for the citizens of those countries to be given the opportunity to express their views on the matter by means of a referendum;
 - 3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the parliaments and governments of the Member States and the US government and Congress.