

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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## WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Mario Mauro, Iles Braghetto and Cristina Gutiérrez-Cortines

on teaching, universities and research within the European academic area

Lapse date: 15.7.2008

**Written declaration on teaching, universities and research within the European academic area**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Articles 17, 149 and 151 of the EC Treaty,
  - having regard to Articles 163 *et seq* of the EC Treaty,
  - having regard to Articles 13-14, 22 and 45 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights,
  - having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the people of Europe must become aware of the identity of the EU, which is rich in cultures and languages and which is open to the world,
- B. having regard to universities, which constitute a favoured environment in which to experience that identity,
- C. whereas the European Research Area (Lisbon 2001) must be incorporated into a European academic area within which teaching staff and students may move freely, by means of ever-wider inter-university networks,
- D. having regard to the need for an *Universitas europaea* title as proof of the excellence of universities which are structurally geared towards interconnection and mutual recognition,
- E. having regard to the importance and the limits of the Bologna Process,
1. Urges the institutions to direct complementary and support activities towards ever-greater mutual openness amongst systems and knowledge within the European academic area;
  2. Wishes to see the *Universitas europaea* title used as proof (based on parameters established by the EU) of the excellence acquired by universities which are structurally engaged in the joint provision of university education and in the organisation of research on a transnational basis;
  3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission, the Council and the Member States' parliaments.