

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

21.4.2009

0046/2009

WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Silvia-Adriana Țicău, Ulrich Stockmann, Jörg Leichtfried, Marusya Ivanova
Lyubcheva and Csaba Sándor Tabajdi

on higher priority for the Danube within European policies

Lapse date: 7.5.2009

Written declaration on higher priority for the Danube within European policies

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas one of the first European institutions, the Danube Commission, was established in Galati (Romania) following the Paris Conferences of 1856 and 1921, which set up for the first time an international regime to safeguard free navigation on the Danube,
- B. whereas the Danube has a very important role for economic and social cohesion as well as for the cultural development of Europe,
- C. whereas the Danube flows eastwards for a distance of some 2 850 kilometres, passing through four Central and Eastern European capitals before emptying into the Black Sea at the Danube Delta,
- D. whereas the Danube passes through six Member States, which together have about 135 million inhabitants (27.5% of all EU citizens), and through Croatia, Serbia, Moldova and Ukraine,
- E. whereas the River Danube, the River Rhine and the Rhine-Main-Danube Canal cut the distance between the port of Rotterdam and the port of Constanta by 4 000 km, linking the North Sea and the Black Sea,
- 1. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to give higher priority to the Danube within European policies;
- 2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission and Council, the Council of Europe and the parliaments of the Member States.