



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure
on setting up an Erasmus programme for young farmers

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Written declaration on setting up an Erasmus programme for young farmers

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its resolution of 5 June 2008 on the future for young farmers under the ongoing reform of the CAP (2007/2194(INI),
- having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas measures to improve and increase competitiveness in the agricultural sector are necessary,
- B. whereas the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs programme, initiated by the EU, has proved effective,
- C. whereas it is necessary to encourage generation change in agriculture by promoting the setting-up of young farmers,
- D. whereas it is necessary to stimulate the professional training of young farmers,
- E. whereas priority should be given to the cross-border transfer of knowledge and experience between farmers,
- F. whereas it is necessary to support young farmers in acquiring relevant skills for the management of farms,
- 1. Proposes setting up a programme for young entrepreneurs using the Erasmus programme as a blueprint, targeted at young European farmers, with specific objectives, whereby they would be able to spend time on farms based in a different EU country;
- 2. Calls on the Commission to provide the legal basis and necessary funds for initiating this programme;
- 3. Calls on the Member States to promote and encourage young farmers' participation in this programme;
- 4. 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.