



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure

on accession by the European Union to the UNESCO Convention for the
Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

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Lapse date: 13.12.2012

Written declaration on accession by the European Union to the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the preamble of the Treaty on European Union and Article 6 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
- having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the acknowledgement of a common intangible cultural heritage strengthens Europe's historical legacy and raises awareness of Europe's importance as the birthplace of the industrial revolution, among other things;
- B. whereas the promotion of the cultural and industrial heritage plays an important role in fostering a greater understanding of the rich diversity of regional cultures;
- C. whereas the cultural and industrial heritage is an important dimension of tourism policy across Europe's regions, attracting tourists to local areas and contributing to the development of sustainable tourism;
- D. whereas many European countries do not have sufficient experience in promoting the intangible cultural heritage, and accession to the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage would promote cross-national exchanges;
- E. whereas only the contracting states have permission to implement the convention in the form of the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity and the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding;
- 1. Supports the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of 17 October 2003;
- 2. Calls on the Commission to ask for accession of the European Union to the UNESCO Convention and on all Member States to ratify it;
- 3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the parliaments and governments of the Member States, the Commission, the Council and the Council of Europe.