



15.4.2013

0003/2013

WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure

on highlighting the global dimension of the fight against online child sexual abuse content

Emma McClarkin (ECR), Vicky Ford (ECR), Timothy Kirkhope (ECR), Mary Honeyball (S&D), Silvia Costa (S&D), Richard Howitt (S&D), Gay Mitchell (PPE), Roberta Angelilli (PPE), Iva Zanicchi (PPE), Maria Da Graça Carvalho (PPE), Seán Kelly (PPE), Diane Dodds (NI)

Lapse date: 15.7.2013

Written declaration, under Rule 123 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on highlighting the global dimension of the fight against online child sexual abuse content¹

1. Child sexual abuse content is one of the most abhorrent types of content available, and the production, possession or distribution of such content is universally considered a criminal act;
2. The cross-border nature of most online child sexual abuse content shows that strong international cooperation is necessary;
3. The commercial distribution of such content could potentially be profitable for organised crime structures;
4. Behind every image of child sexual abuse there is a real victim;
5. The most effective way to deal with such content is to remove it at source in cooperation with law enforcement agencies;
6. It is therefore important to share internationally information and expertise regarding the fight against online sexual abuse content;
7. Adequate reporting and take-down mechanisms in respect of child sexual abuse content in every country are crucial;
8. The Commission is called upon to consider developing as well as developed countries when establishing international cooperation to combat online child sexual abuse content;
9. The Commission is called upon to support the creation of online child sexual abuse reporting mechanisms that meet acceptable global standards regarding transparency and freedom of expression;
10. This declaration, together with the names of the signatories, is forwarded to the Commission.

¹ In accordance with Rule 123(4) and (5) of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, when the declaration is signed by a majority of Parliament's component Members, it shall be published in the minutes with the names of its signatories and forwarded to the addressees, without however binding Parliament.