



15.4.2013

0006/2013

WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure

on putting an immediate stop to the torture and mistreatment of greyhounds in Europe

Michèle Striffler (PPE), Louis Michel (ALDE), Dan Jørgensen (S&D), Raül Romeva i Rueda (Verts/ALE), Kartika Tamara Liotard (GUE), Santiago Fisas Aixela (PPE), Sirpa Pietikäinen (PPE), Cristian Dan Preda (PPE), Iva Zanicchi (PPE), Sonia Alfano (ALDE), Gianni Vattimo (ALDE), Andrea Zanoni (ALDE)

Lapse date: 15.7.2013

Written declaration, under Rule 123 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on putting an immediate stop to the torture and mistreatment of greyhounds in Europe¹

1. Greyhounds are used for hunting and racing in many Member States of the European Union and are liable to be subjected to torture by their owners if they regard the animals as unsuitable for that purpose;
2. The extreme suffering inflicted on greyhounds can take many forms, from abandoning the animals to hanging them and leaving them to die;
3. The problem is compounded by the Member States' failure to control the trade, or trafficking, in greyhounds in Europe;
4. The rules on breeding and keeping greyhounds vary widely across Europe and, for the most part, are not adequately enforced;
5. Greyhounds are domestic animals and should receive adequate protection;
6. The Commission is hence called upon to do everything within its power to ensure that the European Union's animal welfare legislation is implemented correctly and to recommend concrete actions to bring about an immediate stop to the acts of cruelty inflicted on greyhounds in Europe;
7. 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.