



0008/2016

1.2.2016

WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on diabetes

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Lapse date: 1.5.2016

Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on diabetes¹

1. Diabetes mellitus is a serious chronic and progressive condition affecting 32 million people in the EU, with an expected increase to 37 million by 2040. In 2015, there were over 266 000 deaths due to diabetes.
2. If diagnosed late and improperly managed, diabetes can lead to debilitating and fatal complications, including cardiovascular disease and stroke, kidney failure, amputations and blindness.
3. Some EUR 114 billion was spent on treating diabetes in the EU in 2013, despite efforts deployed since Written Declaration 0001/2006.
4. Healthy eating and physical exercise can greatly contribute to the prevention or delay in onset of Type 2 diabetes.
5. The adoption of a healthy lifestyle cannot prevent Type 1 diabetes, but is of great benefit in controlling the disease.
6. The Commission and Council are called upon: to prioritise diabetes as a major European health, social and economic concern; to develop an EU strategy for diabetes prevention, diagnosis and control; to encourage Member States to establish national diabetes plans; to develop a strategy to encourage consumption and production of healthy food; and to effectively coordinate and implement all measures hitherto developed.
7. This declaration, together with the names of the signatories, is forwarded to the Council and the Commission.

¹ Under Rule 136(4) and (5) of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, where a declaration is signed by a majority of Parliament's component Members, it is published in the minutes with the names of its signatories and forwarded to the addressees, without however binding Parliament.