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## WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on achieving full visa reciprocity with the United States of America

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Lapse date: 6.9.2016

**Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on achieving full visa reciprocity with the United States of America<sup>1</sup>**

1. Although US citizens can travel freely through the EU, the citizens of Bulgaria, Cyprus, Croatia, Poland and Romania have to comply with visa requirements when travelling to the US.
2. Under Regulation (EU) No 1289/2013, if the US visa requirements for EU citizens are not abolished by April 2016, the Commission is required to adopt a delegated act which, after taking effect, will temporarily suspend the visa waiver for US citizens when they cross the external borders of the Member States.
3. Such developments could threaten the ongoing negotiations on, and possible ratification of, the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP).
4. The Commission and the Council are therefore called upon to increase the political pressure on the US to abolish visa requirements for EU citizens, as well as to endorse the efforts of the Member States concerned in preparing the possible implementation of a visa requirement for US nationals in the EU.
5. This declaration, together with the names of the signatories, is forwarded to the Council and the Commission.

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<sup>1</sup> 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.