



0108/2016

24.10.2016

WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on the non-material cultural heritage of wine-making know-how

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Lapse date: 24.1.2017

Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on the non-material cultural heritage of wine-making know-how¹

1. RECEVIN, the European Network of Wine Cities, promotes the cultural heritage of wine-making from a social, economic and environmental perspective within the EU. Many Member States participate in this network, including Austria, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Portugal and Spain. Italy is home to some of the most important centres of wine production, such as the towns of Asti and Barbaresco in Piedmont and Conegliano and Valdobbiadene in Veneto.
2. Italian and European wines are the product of specific wine-making know-how which includes traditional knowledge and techniques passed down from generation to generation as a non-material heritage, making every local speciality a symbol of its area of origin.
3. The Commission and the Council are therefore called upon to consider initiatives to support:
 - a. the organisation and carrying-out of educational and cultural activities relating to wine, with the aim of cultivating public awareness of the importance of protecting and promoting the non-material heritage of wine-making know-how;
 - b. the promotion of cultural tourism focusing on wine and gastronomy in the EU, which contributes to regional conservation by means of a commitment on the part of local communities to environmental sustainability and to promoting professions linked to local specialities.
4. 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.