



0109/2016

24.10.2016

WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on elderly rights and ageing

Monica Macovei (ECR), Patricija Šulin (PPE), Elisabetta Gardini (PPE), Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE), Tomáš Zdechovský (PPE), Raffaele Fitto (ECR), Doru-Claudian Frunzuliță (S&D), José Inácio Faria (ALDE), Marijana Petir (PPE), Nicola Caputo (S&D), Deirdre Clune (PPE), Eleftherios Synadinos (NI), Miroslav Poche (S&D), Piernicola Pedicini (EFDD), José Blanco López (S&D), Filiz Hyusmenova (ALDE), Enrico Gasbarra (S&D)

Lapse date: 24.1.2017

Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on elderly rights and ageing¹

1. Article 25 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights recognises the rights of the elderly to lead a life of dignity and independence and to participate in social and cultural life.
2. As of 2013, 18 % of Europeans (more than 92 million individuals) are aged 65 or more, but this is predicted to rise to 30 % by 2060. Over the same period, the proportion of those aged 80 and over will more than double, from 5 % to 12 % of the population.
3. Age discrimination can affect younger people, but discrimination against older people is more pervasive. According to a Eurobarometer survey of 2012, 45 % of Europeans think that discrimination against people over 55 years old is widespread.
4. Older population groups have suffered greatly from the economic crisis, austerity policies and the economic adjustment programmes. The rights of the elderly to life, healthcare, social insurance, housing, benefit reinforcement, social integration and lifelong learning are guaranteed by the Member States' constitutions.
5. The Commission is called upon to redefine the social and financial strategies for elderly persons, and to work together with the Member States to ensure that austerity policies respect the rights of the elderly to lead a life of dignity and independence.
6. 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.