WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Caroline Lucas and Angelika Beer

on the withdrawal of US nuclear weapons from European territory before the end of 2006

Lapse date: 12.10.2006
Written declaration on the withdrawal of US nuclear weapons from European territory before the end of 2006

The European Parliament,

– having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,

A. whereas there is widespread concern among Europe's citizens about the continued presence of 480 US nuclear weapons on that country's bases on the territories of its European NATO allies,

B. whereas there has been considerable public protest about this, with several European governments and parliaments, including the European Parliament, demanding the withdrawal of these weapons as soon as possible and in accordance with a well-determined timetable,

C. whereas the US Government has refused to take any steps in this direction,

D. whereas NATO is refusing to take up this issue at the forthcoming meeting of defence ministers on 8 and 9 June in Geneva or at the Riga summit in November, and whereas Europe's leading foreign and defence ministers have opted to remain silent on the issue in order not to hinder the 'transatlantic relationship',

1. Calls on the US Government to present a clear and precise timetable and action plan for the withdrawal of these weapons from Europe before the end of 2006;

2. Urges NATO to include this issue as a permanent item on the agendas for its ministerial meetings and summits until such time as the withdrawal has been completed;

3. Calls on all European governments to put political pressure on their US counterpart to implement this withdrawal;

4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission and the US Government.