



17.5.2010

0041/2010

## WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure

on the establishment of a European Patients' Rights Day

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Lapse date: 17.9.2010

**0041/2010**

**Written declaration on the establishment of a European Patients' Rights Day**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Article 168 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
  - having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas European citizens should have the right of access to preventive health care and to medical treatment under the conditions established by national laws and practices,
- B. whereas huge disparities and inequalities remain within and among Member States in terms of timely access to prevention, diagnosis and treatment for citizens in the European Union,
- C. whereas since 2007 patients and civil society organisations across the European Union have already been celebrating a European Patients' Rights Day on 18 April each year,
1. Supports the establishment of a European Patients' Rights Day to promote equal access to health care and health services and highlight the need for an inclusive social framework supporting patients and their families;
  2. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to support initiatives which raise awareness about patients' rights, promote timely and equal access to care and citizens' involvement in public health decisions, and support exchanges of good practice with a view to developing patient-centred healthcare policies;
  3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission and the parliaments of the Member States.