

Tuesday 21 October 2008

## Combating trafficking in children

P6\_TA(2008)0504

### Declaration of the European Parliament on combating trafficking in children

(2010/C 15 E/07)

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Articles 34 and 35 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child,
  - having regard to the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings,
  - having regard to the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union,
  - having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas child trafficking is still a persistent problem, with more than two million children annually trafficked for forced labour and sexual exploitation,
- B. whereas the development of new communication technologies increases trafficking in children, making it more difficult to manage this phenomenon,
- C. whereas national authorities and NGOs in the Member States are still not acting effectively against child trafficking, due to insufficient cross-border cooperation, lack of specialised training or inadequate implementation of existing legal standards,
1. Calls on the Member States to recognise the fight against child trafficking as a priority objective in their national child protection policies;
  2. Calls for the European Parliament and the Council to provide the necessary resources in the framework of the Commission's strategy on promoting and safeguarding children's rights;
  3. Calls on the Member States to continue actively cooperating and exchanging knowledge and experience with the relevant EU authorities and NGOs, in order to prevent and combat child trafficking, and provide adequate treatment for victims of such trafficking;
  4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council and the Commission.

#### List of signatories

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