

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

9.3.2005

13/2005

WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Diana Wallis, John Bowis, Charles Tannock, Catherine Stihler, Jean Lambert

on endometriosis

Lapse date: 9.6.2005

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PE 356.622

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Written declaration on endometriosis

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. acknowledging that endometriosis is a debilitating disease affecting an estimated 14 million women and girls in the European Union, with significant costs for the individual and state,
- B. noting that sick leave alone due to endometriosis costs an estimated €30 billion in the EU annually,
- C. concerned about recent international data indicating a diagnostic delay of over 9 years as well as frequent misdiagnosis due to lack of awareness and understanding of symptoms,
- D. welcoming Endometriosis Awareness Week (7-13 March 2005) and the launch of the European Endometriosis Alliance to raise much-needed awareness of the condition in Member States, and recognising that significant funding is necessary for these activities,
 1. Calls on the governments of Member States and the Commission to promote Endometriosis Awareness Week and to support awareness-raising initiatives by national organisations;
 2. Calls for major information campaigns targeting the public, health professionals, and legislators;
 3. Calls on the Commission to include prevention of endometriosis in future Community Action Programmes for Public Health in order to allow more research into the causes, prevention and treatment of endometriosis;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council and the Commission.