

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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## WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Caroline Lucas, Janusz Wojciechowski, David Hammerstein Mintz and Robert Evans

on the welfare of stray animals in EU member States, EU accession countries and other European states

Lapse date: 27.7.2006

**0031/2006**

**Written declaration on the welfare of stray animals in EU member States, EU accession countries and other European states**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the situation in some European states where stray animals are captured, kept in cruel conditions and killed inhumanely and, in particular, the situation in the Ukraine and in Romania,
  - having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the Commission has stated its commitment to high animal welfare standards,
  - B. whereas the Commission's recent communication on a Community Action Plan on the Protection and Welfare of Animals identifies the need to continue to support and initiate further international initiatives to raise awareness on animal welfare,
  - C. whereas the Council of Europe's Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals gives specific guidelines on measures for dealing with stray animals, in order to minimise pain and physical and mental suffering,
    1. Deplores the barbaric treatment of stray animals in some European states and calls on the Commission and Council to exert all possible diplomatic pressure on those states to bring a halt to such cruelty;
    2. Urges the Commission and Council to support European States in implementing humane animal control programmes and promoting awareness of the need for such programmes both internally and internationally, including by allocating funds where appropriate;
    3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council and the Commission.