

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Elizabeth Lynne

on modern day slavery after the 200th anniversary of the end of the transatlantic slave trade

Lapse date: 28.6.2007

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Written declaration on modern day slavery after the 200th anniversary of the end of the transatlantic slave trade

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas 12.3 million people worldwide are categorised as modern slaves,
- B. whereas an estimated 600 000 to 800 000 men, women and children are trafficked across international borders each year and many of those are forced into prostitution,
- C. whereas only four European Union Member States have ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings,
 1. Notes that despite the 200th anniversary of the end of the transatlantic slave trade in the United Kingdom action is urgently required to eliminate modern day human trafficking and forced labour in the European Union;
 2. Urges all remaining Member States to sign and ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings;
 3. Urges Member States to opt in to Council Directive 2004/81/EC on residence permits for victims of trafficking and for coordinated schemes to assist victims who want to go back to their home country;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission, the Member States, the Council of Europe and the United Nations.