

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

25 June 2001

8/2001

## WRITTEN DECLARATION

for entry in the register

pursuant to Rule 51 of the Rules of Procedure

by Cristiana Muscardini, Mauro Nobilia, Francesco Turchi, Sergio Berlato and Nello Musumeci

on Union support to assist women undergoing hardship to bring their pregnancy to term

Expiry date: 25 September 2001

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**Declaration on Union support to assist women undergoing hardship to bring their pregnancy to term**

*The European Parliament,*

- A. whereas in Europe the cost of living, unemployment, the difficulty in finding accommodation and the state of social hardship increase the problems of many expectant mothers,
- B. noting that, in many cases, pregnant women are forced to abort because they are unable to support themselves during pregnancy or provide for their newborn child because they are alone, poverty-stricken or in unsuitable or difficult family or social situations,
- C. expressing concern over both the female condition and the drop in the birth rate,
- D. stressing that the protection of human life and dignity are part of the Union's cultural heritage,
- E. whereas women should be able to choose to be able to bring their pregnancy to full term in total freedom and without being conditioned by economic and social constraints,
  - 1. Urges the Council to draw up with the Member States measures to support pregnant women who are suffering hardship and who wish to bring their pregnancy to term;
  - 2. Instructs its President to forward this declaration to the Council and the Commission.