

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Charles Tannock, Jana Hybášková, Marek Maciej Siwiec, André Brie and
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on Israel's withdrawal from Gaza

Lapse date: 28.12.2005

Written declaration on Israel's withdrawal from Gaza

The European Parliament,

- having regard to UN Security Council Resolutions 242, 338, 425, 1373 and 1397,
 - having regard to the results of the Palestinian presidential election,
 - having regard to the Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States and the State of Israel,
 - having regard to the Quartet's 'Roadmap for Peace' of 30 April 2003,
 - having regard to its previous resolutions on the situation in the Middle East and in particular that of the 23 October 2003,
 - having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. acknowledging the significance of Israel's withdrawal from the Gaza strip,
- B. praising Israel for the peaceful and rapid withdrawal and the commitment this demonstrates by Israel to achieving lasting peace,
- C. recognising the right of both Israelis and Palestinians to live peacefully within secure and recognised borders,
1. Calls on the international community to help create social and economic stability in Gaza and assist the Palestinian Authority in establishing the rule of law and security for its inhabitants;
 2. Calls on the Arab League and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference to recognise the withdrawal as a confidence-building measure by Israel;
 3. Calls on the European Union and national governments to help the two parties work towards a two-state solution in the region and the two sides to re-engage with the Roadmap for Peace facilitated by the Quartet;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission and relevant governments.