



17.4.2012

0018/2012

WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure

in support of the memory of and in recognition of Václav Havel, former President of Czechoslovakia and the Czech Republic and defender of human rights

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Lapse date: 17.7.2012

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Written declaration in support of the memory of and in recognition of Václav Havel, former President of Czechoslovakia and the Czech Republic and defender of human rights

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. recalling that Václav Havel, former President of the Czech Republic, passed away on 18 December 2011;
- B. recalling that, despite being imprisoned for defending his convictions in the face of repression, Havel remained a steadfast contributor to the cause of peace, humanity, freedom and justice;
- C. recalling that, throughout his life, Havel worked around the world in defence of the rights of dissidents and their families and against authoritarian regimes such as those in China, Belarus, Iran, North Korea, Burma and Cuba;
- D. whereas he was considered one of the world's great democratic leaders and was internationally recognised for his commitment to democratic principles and a united Europe;
 1. Recognises Havel as a reference in the defence of freedom and citizens' rights, as the Senate of the United States did on 30 January 2012;
 2. Mourns the loss of Havel and offers its condolences to the Havel family and the people of the Czech Republic;
 3. Encourages, in remembrance of Havel's legacy, further commitment to the safeguarding of human rights;
 4. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Commission, the Council and the Governments and Parliaments of the Member States.