



15.4.2013

0002/2013

WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure

on establishing a European day in recognition of the victims of European colonisation and colonial slavery

Jean-Jacob Bicep (Verts/ALE), Eva Joly (Verts/ALE), João Ferreira (GUE/NGL), Bill Newton Dunn (ALDE), Jean-Luc Bennahmias (ALDE), Britta Thomsen (S&D), Marc Tarabella (S&D), John Attard-Montalto (S&D), Filip Kaczmarek (PPE), Gay Mitchell (PPE), Søren Bo Søndergaard (GUE/NGL), Ivo Vajgl (ALDE)

Lapse date: 15.7.2013

0002/2013

Written declaration, under Rule 123 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on establishing a European day in recognition of the victims of European colonisation and colonial slavery¹

1. European colonisation not only caused political submission and the economic plunder of the colonised territories and population, but also the extermination of native peoples and the deportation and reduction to slavery of millions;
2. Under Article 7 of the Statute of the International Criminal Court, enslavement is recognised as a crime against humanity;
3. Colonisation had among its effects that of depriving the colonised territories of their lifeblood, impacting negatively on their development capacity;
4. The political, economic, demographic and psychological consequences of European colonisation are still resonating;
5. The Commission is hence called upon to support the establishment of a European day in recognition of the victims of European colonisation and colonial slavery;
6. The Council is also encouraged to take ownership of the initiative by supporting it at European level;
7. This declaration, together with the names of the signatories, is forwarded to the Council and the Commission.

¹ In accordance with Rule 123(4) and (5) of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, when the declaration is signed by a majority of Parliament's component Members, it shall be published in the minutes with the names of its signatories and forwarded to the addressees, without however binding Parliament.