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WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on making the EU a dolphinarium-free zone

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0104/2016

Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on making the EU a dolphinarium-free zone¹

1. Keeping dolphins in tanks for the purpose of shows or commercial presentations is wrong.
2. According to various experts, dolphin survival rates are lower in captivity than in the wild. Once in captivity, they live shorter lives.
3. Negative health effects, stress and disturbing behaviour are common among dolphins in captivity.
4. The number of dolphins born in captivity does not meet the needs of dolphinariums in the EU, which therefore rely on wild dolphins caught in cruel and brutal hunts.
5. Several Member States, including the United Kingdom, Austria, Croatia and Slovenia, have forbidden the keeping of dolphins for commercial purposes.
6. The Council and the Commission are called upon to consider measures to make the EU a dolphinarium-free zone.
7. The Commission is called upon to encourage the Member States to clearly regulate the keeping of dolphins in captivity, to enact plans to phase out national dolphinariums and not to grant permits for the construction of any new dolphinariums.
8. This declaration, together with the names of the signatories, is forwarded to the Council and the Commission.

¹ Under Rule 136(4) and (5) of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, where a declaration is signed by a majority of Parliament's component Members, it is published in the minutes with the names of its signatories and forwarded to the addressees, without however binding Parliament.