



0136/2016

12.12.2016

WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on commemoration of the victims of the Holocaust and support for the creation of the Babi Yar Holocaust Memorial Center

Ioan Mircea Paşcu (S&D), Petras Auštrevičius (ALDE), Bas Belder (ECR), Michal Boni (PPE), Rebecca Harms (Verts/ALE), Frédérique Ries (ALDE), Charles Tannock (ECR), Hannu Takkula (ALDE), Boris Zala (S&D), Janusz Zemke (S&D)

Lapse date: 12.3.2017

Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on commemoration of the victims of the Holocaust and support for the creation of the Babi Yar Holocaust Memorial Center¹

1. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Babi Yar tragedy, which occurred in Kyiv, Ukraine. In total, more than 1.3 million Jewish people were executed in Babi Yar, Mizoch and other locations nearby.
2. Under the Soviet regime, the tragedy of Babi Yar was kept a secret for years, and commemorating it was forbidden.
3. It is time to change this. The results of in-depth research and academic work on Babi Yar must be integrated into European education.
4. The project initiated by the Mayor of Kyiv, Vitaly Klitschko, and supported by the President of Ukraine, Petro Poroshenko, to establish the Babi Yar Holocaust Memorial Center in Kyiv is to be welcomed.
5. The European Parliament, as well as the Member States of the European Union, should play a significant role in establishing and supporting this institution. Given the growing support for extremist and fascist ideas across Europe, Holocaust education is gaining relevance and urgency.
6. The vision of Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament, aimed at commemorating the tragedy and strengthening our common foundations for a better future, is to be adhered to.
7. 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.