

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

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12.1.2009

0001/2009

## WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by Katerina Batzeli, Michael Cramer, Silvana Koch-Mehrin, Janusz Lewandowski and Janusz Wojciechowski

on support for Special Olympics in the European Union

Lapse date: 14.4.2009

**0001/2009**

**Written declaration on support for Special Olympics in the European Union**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
  - A. whereas Special Olympics in Europe provide sporting and social opportunities for adults and children with intellectual disabilities,
  - B. whereas Special Olympics programmes are established in every EU Member State, with half a million athletes,
  - C. whereas Special Olympics implement EU policy daily, by promoting sport and volunteerism across borders, by breaking down stereotypes about disability, through public health provision and by including marginalised people in social activities,
  - D. whereas Special Olympics in Europe will host two major upcoming events: in 2010 the European Special Olympics Summer Games will take place in Warsaw, Poland, and in 2011 the World Special Olympics Summer Games will take place in Athens, Greece,
  - E. whereas the EU financially supported the 2003 World Special Olympics Summer Games in Ireland,
1. Considers that the provision of Special Olympics services at local, national and international levels requires significant funding;
  2. Notes that Special Olympics Europe is seeking financial assistance from the European Commission to help fund the European Games in Warsaw in 2010 and the World Games in Athens in 2011;
  3. Acknowledges the benefits for athletes, families and the wider community that will result from these events taking place in Europe;
  4. Calls on the European Commission to support the games in Warsaw in 2010 and Athens in 2011;
  5. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, the Commission and the Parliaments of the Member States.