



7.9.2015

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WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on asbestos

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Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on asbestos¹

1. Asbestos has been banned throughout the EU since 1 January 2005.
2. Despite the ban on this deadly substance, there are many scenarios in which EU citizens are potentially exposed to asbestos, as it is found in ships, trains, tunnels, pipes and buildings among other places.
3. With large amounts of asbestos having been used in Europe during the 20th century, the EU estimates that it will continue to kill tens of thousands of people for the next two decades.
4. The EU estimates that asbestos-related cancers will cause up to 500 000 deaths by 2030 in Western Europe.
5. There are still unacceptably wide differences between Member States' schedules for recognising occupational asbestos-related diseases.
6. The Commission is hence called upon to:
 - include a coordinated strategy on asbestos in the Community Strategy for Health and Safety;
 - create and finance a Europe-wide programme aimed at the removal of all asbestos from public and private buildings.
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.