## **European Parliament**

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## WRITTEN DECLARATION

submitted under Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on stopping organ harvesting from prisoners of conscience in China

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## 0048/2016

Written declaration, under Rule 136 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, on stopping organ harvesting from prisoners of conscience in China<sup>1</sup>

- 1. The Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs was adopted by the Council of Europe on 9 July 2014 in order to criminalise illegal organ transplantations; it was subsequently opened for signature, and every country is encouraged to sign.
- 2. There have been persistent credible reports on systematic, state-sanctioned organ harvesting from non-consenting prisoners of conscience in the People's Republic of China, primarily from practitioners of Falun Gong peaceful meditation and exercises but also from Uighurs, Tibetans and Christians.
- 3. The international community has strongly condemned organ harvesting in China and actions should be taken to end it.
- 4. Owing to the severity of underlying abuse there is a clear need to organise without delay an independent investigation into ongoing organ harvesting in the People's Republic of China.
- 5. The Commission and the Council are called upon to implement Parliament's resolution of 12 December 2013 on organ harvesting in China<sup>2</sup> and provide a report on this issue.
- 6. This declaration, together with the names of the signatories, is forwarded to the Council and the Commission.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Texts adopted, P7 TA(2013)0603.