Declaration on the European emergency call number 112

2007/2635(DCE) - 25/09/2007 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

The European Parliament adopted a written declaration requesting an evaluation of the quality of the operation of "112", the little known European emergency number. The declaration was adopted by 530 MEPs out of a total of 785. It calls upon the Member States and the Commission to engage the necessary processes and resources for ensuring an efficient 112 service throughout the EU.

It also calls upon the Commission to organise the evaluation by independent bodies of the real state of implementation of the **112 number throughout the EU**, using the methodology developed in 2003. The Commission was asked to consider all relevant policies when addressing the question of emergency telecommunications systems and to build on the example of countries which deal with this issue in new and innovative ways.

Parliament felt that proper implementation of the 112 number calls into play several EU policies (telecommunications, health, internal security and civil protection), and has implications for others (transport, tourism). The EU needs to establish high quality, interoperable emergency telecommunications between citizens and emergency services with a view to reducing suffering and the loss of human life caused by everyday accidents and major disasters.