Basic information	
2008/2194(DCE) DCE - Written declaration (historic)	Procedure completed
Declaration on announcing 2011 as the European Year of Volunteering **Subject** 4.10.16 Social and community life, associations, foundations	

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
02/09/2008	Decision by Parliament	T6-0389/2008	Summary
02/09/2008	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2008/2194(DCE)
Procedure type	DCE - Written declaration (historic)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 136_
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Written declaration		T6-0389/2008	02/09/2008	Summary

Declaration on announcing 2011 as the European Year of Volunteering

2008/2194(DCE) - 02/09/2008 - Written declaration

The European Parliament made a written **declaration** calling on the Commission, supported by all the institutions of the EU, to announce **2011 as the European Year of Volunteering**. It pointed out that there are more than 100 million Europeans of all ages, beliefs and nationalities who volunteer. A Eurobarometer survey published in February 2007 revealed that 3 out of 10 Europeans claim to be active in a voluntary capacity and that close to 80% of respondents feel that voluntary activities are an important part of democratic life in Europe.

The voluntary sector contributes an estimated 5% to the gross domestic product of Member States' economies, and develops innovative actions to detect, voice and respond to needs arising in society.

Members noted that the European Volunteer Centre, the European Youth Forum, the Association of Voluntary Service Organisations, the World Organisation of the Scout Movement, the Red Cross/European Union Office, volonteurope, the European Older People's Platform (AGE), Solidar, Caritas Europa, ENGAGE, Johanniter International, the European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation and others – together representing thousands of organisations involving millions of volunteers – have all called upon the institutions of the European Union to announce 2011 as the European Year of Volunteering.