



## Texts adopted

Thursday, 14 June 2012 - Strasbourg

Provisional edition

European cardiac arrest awareness week

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### ► Declaration of the European Parliament of 14 June 2012 on establishing a European cardiac arrest awareness week

*The European Parliament*,

– having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,

A. whereas in Europe approximately 400 000 people suffer an out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrest every year, with a survival rate of less than 10%;

B. whereas the survival of many apparently healthy victims depends on cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) administered by bystanders and early defibrillation, and whereas an intervention within 3-4 minutes may increase the chance of survival to more than 50%;

C. whereas in Europe, automated external defibrillator (AED) programmes are only partially implemented;

1. Calls on the Commission and the Council to encourage:

- the adoption of common programmes for implementing AED in public places and training lay people in all Member States,
- the adjustment of legislation in order to facilitate CPR and defibrillation by non-medical persons,
- systematic data collection for feedback and quality management in every programme;

2. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to establish a European cardiac arrest awareness week aimed at improving the awareness and education of the general public, physicians and healthcare professionals;

3. Calls on the Commission to support the Member States in adopting and implementing national strategies for equal access to high-quality CPR;

4. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to enact harmonised legislation across the EU in order to provide immunity from liability to non-medical first responders who offer voluntary assistance in cardiac emergencies;

5. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories<sup>(1)</sup>, to the Council, the Commission and the parliaments of the Member States.

<sup>(1)</sup> The list of signatories is published in Annex 1 to the Minutes of 14 June 2012 (P7\_PV-PROV(2012)06-14(ANN1)).