Basic information	
2016/3029(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Resolution on support for the thalidomide survivors **Subject** 4.20.01 Medicine, diseases 4.20.05 Health legislation and policy	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
14/12/2016	Debate in Parliament	CRE link	
15/12/2016	Decision by Parliament	T8-0510/2016	Summary
15/12/2016	Results of vote in Parliament		
15/12/2016	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2016/3029(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Nature of procedure	Resolution on statement
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 132-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Motion for a resolution		B8-1341/2016	14/12/2016	
Motion for a resolution		B8-1343/2016	14/12/2016	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T8-0510/2016	15/12/2016	Summary

Resolution on support for the thalidomide survivors

2016/3029(RSP) - 15/12/2016 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on support for the thalidomide survivors.

The text adopted in plenary was tabled by the EPP, S&D, ECR, ALDE, GUE/NGL and Greens/EFA groups.

Members recalled that the drug thalidomide was marketed by *Chemie Grünenthal GmbH* in the late 1950s and early 1960s as a safe drug to treat morning sickness, headaches, coughs, insomnia and the common cold.

This drug resulted in the death and malformation of thousands of babies when taken by pregnant women in many European countries.

Furthermore, independently verified research points to an inexorable inference that in 1970 the Federal Republic of Germany interfered with the criminal proceedings against *Chemie Grünenthal GmbH,* the German manufacturer of thalidomide. As a consequence, no proper determination of the guilt of the manufacturer could be established.

Against this background, Parliament urged the Member States and the Commission to coordinate actions and measures seeking to formally recognise and provide compensation to thalidomide survivor.

Parliament urged the German Federal Government to use the opportunity presented by the forthcoming amendment to the Thalidomide Foundation Act to allow thalidomide survivors, who have been accredited as such by court-appointed trust schemes or are beneficiaries of national government schemes, to access the Special Health Fund of the German *Conterganstiftung für behinderte Menschen* (Thalidomide Foundation for People with Disabilities).

Parliament urged the Commission to create a framework protocol at European level under which all European citizens affected by thalidomide would **receive similar amounts of compensation**, regardless of which Member State they are from, and to draw up an EU programme for assistance and support (including both financial and welfare provisions) for thalidomide victims and their families.

Lastly, Members asked the *Grünenthal* company to shoulder its responsibilities by providing proper compensation and care to those victims who have yet to be recognised.