



Procedure file

Basic information		
RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	2008/2667(RSP)	Procedure completed
Resolution on HIV/AIDS: early diagnosis and early care		
Subject 4.20.01 Medicine, diseases		

Key players	
European Parliament	

Key events			
19/11/2008	Debate in Parliament		Summary
20/11/2008	Results of vote in Parliament		
20/11/2008	Decision by Parliament	T6-0566/2008	Summary
20/11/2008	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2008/2667(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Resolution on statement
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 132-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway					
Motion for a resolution		B6-0581/2008	19/11/2008	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0583/2008	19/11/2008	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0584/2008	19/11/2008	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0585/2008	19/11/2008	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0586/2008	19/11/2008	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B6-0587/2008	19/11/2008	EP	
Joint motion for resolution		RC-B6-0581/2008	19/11/2008		
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0566/2008	20/11/2008	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2009)400	10/03/2009	EC	

The House held a debate, following on the Council and Commission statements, on early diagnosis and early care for HIV/AIDS.

A motion for a resolution closing this debate was due to be put to the vote on 20 November 2008.

Resolution on HIV/AIDS: early diagnosis and early care

Following the debate which took place during the sitting of 19 November 2008, the European Parliament adopted by 480 votes to 4, with 10 abstentions, a resolution on HIV/AIDS: early diagnosis and early care. The resolution had been tabled for consideration in plenary by the Greens/EFA, EPP-ED, PES, UEN, ALDE and GUE/NGL groups.

Parliament recalls that EuroHIV's end-year report 2006 shows that 269 152 people were newly diagnosed as infected with HIV in 1999-2006 within the EU and 806 258 people were newly diagnosed as infected with HIV in the European Region of the WHO. In the EU, 11% of all new HIV infections affect young people under the age of 25, according to the EuroHIV report. The reports from EuroHIV and UNAIDS confirm that the number of new HIV infections is still rising at an alarming rate within the EU as well as in neighbouring countries, and that in some countries the estimated number of people infected with HIV is almost three times higher than the official number.

However, despite the increased number of HIV infections, the steady decrease in the number of AIDS cases diagnosed in recent years has continued in 2006, with 40% fewer cases diagnosed in 2006 in comparison to 1999 in the EU. A large proportion of HIV infections remain undiagnosed, and many people do not know whether they are infected or not, and are likely to discover it only once afflicted by HIV/AIDS-related illnesses.

Parliament calls on the Council and the Commission to formulate a strategy on HIV to:

- promote early diagnosis and reduction of barriers to testing;
- ensure early care and communication of the benefits of earlier care.

It calls on the Commission to ensure accurate monitoring and surveillance by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, including more precise estimates (size, characteristics, etc.) of the undiagnosed population, respecting confidentiality and protecting personal data. The Commission must commit substantial political, financial and human resources to support the implementation of such a strategy. Together with Member States, it must ensure access to testing, which must remain free and anonymous.

Parliament calls for the following :

- the establishment of an HIV/AIDS risk reduction strategy focusing on vulnerable groups and groups known to be at high risk;
- the preparation of Council recommendations on the implementation of evidence-based testing and treatment guidelines in each Member State ;
- ensuring that future monitoring of progress in the fight against HIV/AIDS in Europe and neighbouring countries incorporates indicators that directly address and assess human rights issues in relation to HIV/AIDS.

It calls on Member States to enact provisions which effectively outlaw discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS, including restrictions that impact on their freedom of movement within their jurisdictions. Member States are also asked to step up information and education campaigns on the prevention, testing and treatment of HIV/AIDS.