

*Thursday, 14 June 2012 - Strasbourg*

Resolution [RC-B7-0304/2012](#)

Pino Arlacchi (S&D ), in writing . – Dear Mr President, With this text we call upon the UN General Assembly to adopt a resolution at its 67th session with a view to banning female genital mutilation worldwide. It is important to reiterate that any form of female genital mutilation is a harmful traditional practice that is not part of a religion but is an act of violence against women and a violation of their fundamental rights. This practice is an irreparable abuse that intentionally alters female genitals for non-medical reasons. Expert analysis shows that in the world more than 140 million women alive today are living with female genital mutilation and that further three million girls are at risk of undergoing the procedure each year. Only in Europe the women subjected to this practice are around 500 000. For this reason Member States must take a firm action to combat this illegal practice and the Commission should give specific attention to female genital mutilation as part of an overall strategy for combating violence against women.

[source: [www.europarl.europa.eu](http://www.europarl.europa.eu) ]