

Pro-life voting records of Maltese MEPs

2004 to 2009-05-29

What is this document?

The following is a collection of the voting records of the five Maltese MEPs at the European Parliament in the first five years of EU membership.

Why have we put this information together?

It designed to be an informative guide for those people interested in knowing how our Island's elected representatives have voted on pro-life issues.

It is your right to know and your duty to be informed about issues that concern you

How to interpret this document

This document contains a series of amendments, proposals or chapters/ paragraphs that the 5 Maltese MEPs would have been required to cast their vote on in the last 5 years.

The samples provided are extracted from documents that are freely available to all members of the public. Footnotes are provided under each section to help the reader to understand the implication of the voting record on pro-life matters.

Note from Gift of Life

We are committed to keeping the public informed about how our MEPs vote in Europe on ethical and moral life issues.

We feel that our MEPs have a duty to fight against any measure which endangers all human life from conception.

Pro-life MEPs have a moral duty to vote against any measure that threatens human life in Malta even if Malta has a protocol with Europe on abortion.

MEPs have a duty to safeguard human life at all stages of development where this is threatened in all European states and beyond the 27 member states in other countries where the EU has influence.

At no time will Gift of Life suggest who citizens should or should not vote for in elections. This decision is left to the individual voter.

1. Uca - Report on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment in Development Cooperation

Final Report available on:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=TA&language=EN&reference=P6-TA-2008-0103>

Amendment 5

Ryszard Czarnecki, Konrad Szymański

on behalf of the UEN Group

Report A6-0035/2008

Feleknas Uca

Gender Equality and Women Empowerment in Development Cooperation

2007/2182(INI)

Motion for a resolution

Recital V

Motion for a resolution Amendment

V. whereas there is an information gap between men and women on the ways of transmitting HIV/AIDS and on preventive measures that is reinforced by a climate of discrimination and genderbased violence; whereas sexual and reproductive health education and information and access to reproductive health services are the best guarantees for the prevention of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases,

V. whereas there is an information gap between men and women on the ways of transmitting HIV/AIDS and on preventive measures that is reinforced by a climate of discrimination and genderbased violence; whereas education and responsibility are the best guarantees for the prevention of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases,

How your MEPs voted on this issue

Voted in favour: PPE-DE: Simon Busuttil and David Casa voted in favour of this amendment.

Voted against: PSE: John Attard-Montalto, voted against the amendment . Joseph Grech and Joseph Muscat did not cast a vote

Note:

Sexual reproductive health and reproductive health services mentioned in the motion (red) are terms which usually include abortion.

This amendment (right hand column) sought to remove language like that highlighted in red. The amendment sought to substitute that language with text that cannot be interpreted as meaning the inclusion of abortion. The suggested amendment in text is highlighted in green.

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5.3.2008 A6-0035/8

Amendment 8

Ryszard Czarnecki, Konrad Szymański

on behalf of the UEN Group

Report A6-0035/2008

Feleknas Uca

Gender Equality and Women Empowerment in Development Cooperation
2007/2182(INI)

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 29

Motion for a resolution Amendment

29. Calls on the Commission to strengthen its political leadership role in SRHR policies and to increase funding for SRHR, in order to help countries to achieve the MDGs, in particular the goal of universal access to reproductive health under the MDG on improving maternal health (MDG 5), and to address currently neglected women's SRHR issues, such as obstetric and traumatic fistula;

29. Calls on the Commission to strengthen its

political leadership role in women's health policies and to increase funding in this area, in order to help countries to achieve the MDGs, in particular the goal of improving maternal health (MDG 5), and to address currently neglected issues, such as obstetric and traumatic fistula;

How your MEPs voted on this issue

Voted in favour: PPE-DE: Simon Busuttil and David Casa voted in favour of this amendment.

Voted against: PSE: John Attard-Montalto, voted against the amendment

Note: MEPs Louis Grech and Joseph Muscat did not vote.

Note:

This amendment sought to remove language such as that highlighted in red substituting it with language that cannot be interpreted as inferring the inclusion of abortion. The amended text is highlighted in the amendment in the colour green.

Sexual Reproductive Health and Reproductive Health Services are terms often considered to include the provision of abortion services. Though abortion is not specifically referred to, the language is a well known euphemism for abortion.

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2. Angelilli Report – Towards an EU strategy on the Rights of the Child

The final Report is available at:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=TA&language=EN&reference=P6-TA-2008-0012>

165. Underlines the importance of promoting policies on sexual and reproductive health in order to reduce and possibly avoid sexually transmitted infections (including HIV/AIDS), unwanted pregnancies and illegal and unsafe abortions for young women, and avoid lack of understanding on the part of young people of their reproductive health needs;

How your MEPs voted on this issue

Voted in favour: PSE: Attard-Montalto, Louis Grech, Joseph Muscat voted in favour of this report including the terms highlighted in red above

Voted against: PPE-DE: Simon Busuttil, David Casa voted against this report

Corrected vote: Joseph Muscat's name later appeared on the "CORRECTIONS TO VOTES AND VOTING INTENTIONS » Dr Muscat changed his vote registering a vote against the text

Note :

Amended votes do not change the voting outcome.

Reproductive health and unwanted pregnancies clearly imply abortion services. This text calls for member states to promote policies which include abortion.

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Continued from above

164. Notes that children's rights, as laid down in the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child, refer to all human beings below the age of 18 and that specific needs on sexual and reproductive health and rights of adolescents have to be acknowledged;

1. Report: Angelilli A6-0520/2007 – paragraph 164 16/01/2008 14:11:02

How your MEPs voted on this issue

Voted in favour: PSE: Attard-Montalto, Joseph Grech, Joseph Muscat voted in favour of this paragraph

Voted against: PPE-DE: Simon Busuttil, David Casa voted against this paragraph

Corrected vote: Joseph Muscat and Joseph Grech's names later appeared on the "CORRECTIONS TO VOTES AND VOTING INTENTIONS »

They changed vote to vote against the report.

Note:

Amended votes do not change the voting outcome.
Sexual and reproductive health referred to above includes abortion
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3. Draft Budget 2009

Draft amendment 0134

Budget reference line : 21 01 04 20

Volume 4 (section 3) — Commission

Item 21 01 04 20 Administrative support expenditures for «Development and relations with ACP States» policy area

Amend remarks as follows:

Heading:

Administrative support expenditures for «Development and relations with ACP States» policy area

Remarks:

After paragraph

This appropriation is intended to cover administrative expenditure under Article 21 07 02.

Add following text: (Draft general budget 2009 – Amendment 134 - 23/10/2008 11:38:31)

Community assistance shall not be given to any government or organisation or programme which supports or participates in the management of a programme which involves human rights abuses such as coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization or infanticide. This implements the specific Cairo ICPD prohibition on coercion or compulsion in sexual and reproductive health matters. The Commission shall present each year a report on the implementation of the EU's external assistance covering this programme.

How your MEPs voted on this issue

Voted against: PSE: Attard-Montalto, voted against adding the text above

Voted in favour: PPE-DE: Simon Busuttil, David Casa voted in favour this amendment above

Note: MEP Louis Grech did not vote; MEP Bedingfield was not present.

This was an amendment to the draft budget of the EU for 2009. As evident in the highlighted part (yellow), the purpose of this amendment was to prevent EU money going to governments or organisations which support or participate in the management of a programme which involve human rights abuses such as coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization or infanticide.

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4. Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou – Report on women's immigration: the role and place of immigrant women in the European Union

29. Welcomes the fact that one of the main specific goals of the European Integration Fund is the obligation on Member State bodies that provide services to improve the way in which they meet the needs of various groups of third-country nationals, including women and children; in this framework for action, requests that free advisory services be provided for immigrant women on the subjects of women's rights, health, **sexual and reproductive rights**, employment and other related issues;

UEN, IND/DEM

§ 29

Full report available at:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=TA&language=EN&reference=P6-TA-2006-0437>

2. Report: Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou A6-0307/2006 – par. 29/2 24/10/2006 12:23:02

How your MEPs voted on this issue

Abstained: PSE: John Attard-Montalto, Louis Grech and Joseph Muscat abstained

Voted against: PPE-DE: Simon Busuttil, David Casa voted against this amendment

Note:

Sexual and reproductive rights referred to above includes abortion information.

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5. Stem Cell Research – 15th June 2006 – Buzek

7.6.2006 A6-0202/354

AMENDMENT 354 by Giuseppe Gargani, Anna Záborská, and others Report A6-0202/2006

Jerzy Buzek

Seventh framework programme

Amendment 354 Article 6, paragraph 1 a (new)

The following shall not be financed under the seventh Framework Programme:

- research projects which are prohibited in Member States for reasons based on primary human rights considerations and constitutional principles;
- research projects which endanger primary values of human dignity;
- research activities aimed at the cloning of human embryos;
- research activities intended to modify the genetic heritage of human beings which could make such changes hereditary;
- interventions in the human germ line;
- the use of embryos and embryonic stem cells for purposes of scientific research, since human beings are ends in themselves and the human body, in particular the female body, should not be commercialised.
- No direct or indirect funding shall be provided for research on chimeras.

3. Report: Buzek A6-0202/2006 – am. 354 15/06/2006 11:14:02

How your MEPs voted on this issue

Abstained: PSE: John Attard-Montalto, Louis Grech and Joseph Muscat all abstained

Voted in favour: PPE-DE: Simon Busuttil, David Casa in favour of this amendment by Parliament

Note:

This amendment was intended to protect the human embryo and human life from unethical practices such killing the embryo for research and experimentation. and of "chimeras" or animal / human hybrids for experimentation.

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8.6.2006 A6-0202/355

AMENDMENT 355

by Anna Záborská, Giuseppe Gargani and others

Report A6-0202/2006

Jerzy Buzek

Seventh framework programme

Proposal for a decision (COM(2005)0119 – C6-0099/2005 – 2005/0043(COD))

Amendment 355 Article 6, paragraph 1 b (new)

In cases where a technology is controversial from an ethical point of view (e.g. research involving embryonic stem cells, supernumerary embryos from IVF, questions arising as to the use of genetic data where no therapies exist), the Community shall fund research projects presenting an alternative to those ethically controversial technologies (e.g. research involving adult stem cells and stem cells from the umbilical cord, treatment of fertility disorders without the creation of supernumerary embryos, genetic testing in connection with therapy).

4. Report: Buzek A6-0202/2006 – am. 355 15/06/2006 11:15:26

How your MEPs voted on this issue

Abstained: PSE: John Attard-Montalto, Louis Grech and Joseph Muscat abstained

Voted in favour: PPE-DE: Simon Busuttil, David Casa in favour of this amendment by Parliament

Note: This amendment was designed to protect the living human embryo from being killed for research purposes. It also proposed the use of more ethical adult stem cell research practices which do not involve the killing of a human life.

It is worth noting embryonic stem cell research has not produced any significant results and much more success has been attained when using non-embryonic stem cells

8.6.2006 A6-0202/356

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AMENDMENT 356

by Anna Záborská, Giuseppe Gargani and others

Report A6-0202/2006

Jerzy Buzek

Seventh framework programme

Proposal for a decision (COM(2005)0119 – C6-0099/2005 – 2005/0043(COD))

Amendment 356 Recital 4 a (new)

(4a) No Community assistance should be given to any research activity which requires human embryos to be destroyed or uses material taken from human embryos in a process which entails the destruction of the embryo concerned.

5. Report: Buzek A6-0202/2006 – am. 356 15/06/2006 11:23:37

How your MEPs voted on this issue

Abstained: PSE: John Attard-Montalto, Louis Grech and Joseph Muscat
abstained

Voted in favour: PPE-DE: Simon Busuttil, David Casa in favour of this amendment
by Parliament to protect the embryo from being killed

Note: This amendment sought to protect the human embryo from being destroyed (killed) for research. These embryos are generally left over after IVF treatment and in a frozen state.

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7.6.2006 A6-0202/353

AMENDMENT 353

by Giuseppe Gargani, Anna Záborská, and others

Report A6-0202/2006

Jerzy Buzek

Seventh framework programme

Proposal for a decision (COM(2005)0119 – C6-0099/2005 – 2005/0043(COD))

Amendment 353

Recital 25

(25) Research activities supported by this Framework Programme should respect fundamental ethical principles, including those reflected in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. The opinions of the European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies are and will be taken into account.

(25) Research activities supported by this Framework Programme should respect fundamental ethical principles, including those reflected in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, the protection of human dignity and human life, the protection of personal data and privacy and the protection of the environment in compliance with Community law, the relevant international treaties

and the Helsinki Declaration in its most recent version, the Council of Europe's Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine, signed in Oviedo on 4 April 1997, and the Additional Protocol thereto on the prohibition of cloning human beings, signed in Paris on 12 January 1998, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the UNESCO Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights, the United Nations General Assembly resolution of 8 March 2005 (A/RES/59/280), the relevant resolutions of the World Health Organization (WHO), the European Parliament's resolutions of 10 March 2005 on the trade in human egg cells¹ and of 26 October 2005 on patents for biotechnological inventions² and the laws and regulations valid in the countries where the research projects in question are conducted.

¹ OJ C 320 E, 15.12.2005, p. 251.

² Texts Adopted, P6_TA(2005)0407.

6. Report: Buzek A6-0202/2006 – am. 353 15/06/2006 11:26:10

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How your MEPs voted on this issue

Abstained: PSE: John Attard-Montalto, Louis Grech and Joseph Muscat abstained

Voted in favour: PPE-DE: Simon Busuttil, David Casa in favour of this amendment by Parliament

Note:

This amendment was meant to protect human life from all manner of unethical practices such as cloning as well as the protection of human embryo as described in the Oviedo convention.