

## PRESS RELEASE

23/11/2012

# 168 MEPs already committed to designate 2014 to be the European Year for Reconciling Work and Family Life

## - Update on the Written Declaration nr. 32

23 November // COFACE, the Confederation of Family Organisations in the European Union, together with the European Year 2014 Alliance, is calling on Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) to join their 168 colleagues who have already signed the Written Declaration 0032/2012.

In support of this Written Declaration co-tabled by MEPs Marian Harkin, Elisabeth Morin-Chartier, Roberta Angelilli and Jutta Steinruck, MEPs affirm that work-life balance means making a difference in the quality of life for everyone in our society, realising gender equality in practice, motivating and retaining the workforce, preventing poverty and having a positive impact on child well-being.

Annemie Drieskens, President of COFACE, stated: "We are grateful for having received this number of signatures so far. Thank you very much! But we need to continue our joint activities to mobilise the Members of the European Parliament from all EU Member States to join us. Therefore we count on our members, our coalition partners and on those MEPs who already signed.

She also added: "We are sure that we can succeed and that the adoption of the Written Declaration 0032/2012 before the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2013 would mark a significant step in efforts towards a European Year dedicated to Reconciling Work and Family life in 2014".

Once the Written Declaration is adopted, it will be officially communicated on behalf of the European Parliament to the Commission, the Council and the Member States with the names of the signatories.

/END/

**More information about this campaign:** <http://eyf2014.wordpress.com/>

About COFACE: [www.coface-eu.org](http://www.coface-eu.org)

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COFACE is supported by the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity - PROGRESS (2007-2013). For more information see: <http://ec.europa.eu/progress>