

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1759/09  
by Roberta Angelilli (UEN)  
to the Commission

Subject: Possibility of programmes or funding for the associations 'ARAP' and 'Noi e il Nostro Tempo'

The tragic issue of mental illness which afflicts our society has recently seen a constant growth in the number of people affected by psychic disorders, whose illnesses are varied but often seriously disabling.

*Noi e il Nostro Tempo* ('*We and our Time*') is a non-profit association which attempts to raise public awareness of the serious, painful problem of mental illness.

The association, in compliance with its own statutory aims, seeks to promote social awareness-raising projects in order to remove the stigma affecting the mentally ill. It also aims to promote information projects concerning the legal protection of families and the mentally ill and the legal bodies whose role is to protect them.

*ARAP* is an association which, for some thirty years, has combined the aim of promoting the adoption of better legislation to guarantee treatment also for non-consenting psychiatric patients with the aim of promoting home-care programmes for the more seriously ill as well as programmes to assist families in coping with the illness of their loved ones by providing information on available facilities and services. A further aim is to assist families in their requests for intervention and treatment to the health authorities, also through legal action.

In the light of the above, could the Commission clarify

1. whether any programmes or funding to support this kind of association are available;
2. whether any funding is available to support information campaigns?