

**Question for written answer P-012121/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Aldo Patriciello (PPE)

Subject: Combating arson in Europe

Having regard to:

- paragraph 12 of the Presidency Conclusions of the Brussels European Council of 15 and 16 June 2006;
- the Commission Communication entitled 'A Community approach on the prevention of natural and man-made disasters (COM (2009) 82 final/2 of 4 March 2009;

whereas the phenomenon of forest fires is exacerbated by the absence of a proper prevention policy and by insufficiently harsh penalties for those who start fires deliberately;

given the damaging economic and social impact of natural disasters for regional economies, as regards both tourism and production activities in general;

Would it be possible, in the light of the above, to consider calling for an EU prevention strategy and to urge Member States to tighten up their controls and penalties in order to combat this phenomenon?