

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0872/00  
by Alejandro Agag Longo (PPE-DE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Internet in schools

On 28 February this year the Commission sent the President of the Council its contribution with a view to the forthcoming Lisbon Summit on reform and employment. It mentions, as one of its priorities, that all schools should have access to the Internet by 2001.

Does the Commission consider reasonably priced access to the Internet to be feasible, as a universal service, for the Member States?

Similarly, a number of countries have mooted the idea of free access to the Internet for schools, universities, hospitals and other healthcare structures, in order to prevent the different levels of income in the Union from creating a 'two-speed Europe' as far as the information society is concerned. What is its opinion on this matter?