

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1473/00  
by Alejandro Agag Longo (PPE-DE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Recommendation on the major economic policy guidelines

A close reading of the Commission's recommendation on the major economic policy guidelines suggests that the macroeconomic frameworks and forecasts which the text uses as its starting-point are presented with an optimism which some might consider excessive.

In an increasingly globalised and highly volatile environment, not only on the financial markets but also on the material markets (as the case of oil should illustrate sufficiently), it is surely reasonable to conclude that there will be knock-on effects of one economy on another.

In this connection, has the Commission taken sufficient account of the effects on the EU's economy of a possible economic overheating or, indeed, recession in the US? What account has the Commission taken of the price of oil, a factor of major importance, when drawing up its recommendations? What future macroeconomic frameworks have been deployed in the preparation of this text?