

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3219/01  
by Pere Esteve (ELDR)  
to the Commission

Subject: Establishment of a European Civilian Peace Corps

In view of the major escalation of violence which is taking place in the world and the need to improve non-military crisis-management tools, would the Commission answer the following questions?

1. Will it say why, in its recent Communication of 11 April 2001 on conflict prevention (COM(2001) 211 final), it ignored the proposal which Parliament has repeatedly put forward (beginning with the resolution it adopted on 17 May 1995 on the functioning of the Treaty on European Union with a view to the 1996 Intergovernmental Conference<sup>1</sup>) concerning the establishment of a European Civilian Peace Corps with responsibility for peace-keeping duties?
2. What view does the Commission take of this proposal which Parliament has put forward in a series of documents? These comprise:
  - the proposal for a recommendation to the Council by Mr Spencer and 38 other Members concerning the establishment of a European Civilian Peace Corps (B4-0791/98),
  - the report of 28 January 1999 by Mr Per Gahrton on a proposal for a European Parliament recommendation to the Council on the establishment of a European Civil Peace Corps (A4-0047/99),
  - the motion for a resolution by Mr Salvador Garriga on the setting up of a European Civilian Peace Corps (B5-0361/99),
  - the final report of 21 November 2000 by Mrs Catherine Lalumière on the establishment of a common European security and defence policy after Cologne and Helsinki (A5-0339/2000),
  - the report drawn up by Mr Joost Lagendijk and adopted in committee on 6 November 2001 concerning the Commission Communication on conflict prevention (COM(2001) 211).
3. Has the Commission carried out any studies into the feasibility of a European Civilian Peace Corps?
4. Is it intending to take any real action on the matter?

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<sup>1</sup> OJ C 151, 19.6.1995, p. 56