

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0589/02
by Elisa Damião (PSE)
to the Council

Subject: The Lisbon strategy

The targets set by the Lisbon strategy for employment growth up to 2005 and 2010 were employment rates of 60% for women and 70% for the total workforce, in the expectation that growth would simultaneously be underpinned by technological innovation and social cohesion. However, the Prospective Analysis 2020 synthesis report by the European Science and Technology Observatory on the 'Impact of Technological and Structural Change on Employment' contradicts this view and goes so far as to say that productivity will speed up, with a positive impact on the economy, but not on employment, which will continue to grow in the traditional business sectors.

What does the Council intend to do – correct the Lisbon targets or adopt more realistic strategies for employment growth?