

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3842/02  
by Paolo Pastorelli (PPE-DE)  
to the Commission

Subject:           The province of Novara

Following the creation of the province of Verbano-Cusio-Ossola (VCO) the province of Novara is now the only one in Piedmont which does not receive assistance from the Structural Funds granted by the European Union in accordance with Regulation (EEC) 2081/93<sup>1</sup>, but its exclusion does not automatically mean that the new province of Novara does not come within the scope of the parameters laid down for Objective 2 of the Funds, which constitute the main instrument of economic and social cohesion and an expression of intra-Community solidarity.

The subsidies which the European Union allocates to the industrial sectors in the regions covered by Objective 2 are precisely designed to slow down, arrest and reverse processes of industrial decline in regions which have undergone considerable development of the secondary sector. In view of all this, does the Commission intend to check the data and parameters in its possession in order to ascertain the possibility of including the province of Novara among the Objective 2 regions?

---

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 193, 31.7.1993, p. 5.