WRITTEN QUESTION E-0128/03 by Ursula Schleicher (PPE-DE) to the Commission

Subject: Alpine Convention

It is encouraging that finally, after forty years of preparation, the Alpine Convention has now come into force. It is, however, regrettable that two Member States, Italy and France, have so far failed to sign. The European Union, which should also be among the signatories to the Convention, has also yet to sign the Alpine Convention.

- 1. What problems stand in the way of the European Union's signing the Convention?
- 2. What action is the Commission taking to encourage those Member States that have yet to sign to do so?

486657.EN PE 326.934