

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1572/03
by Christos Folias (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Protection of forests in the Community from fire

The protection of forests from fires is a matter of particular importance and urgency for the Community in view of the substantial contribution they make to preserving and developing farming and the countryside, the survival of which depends in large measure on the presence and good condition of surrounding forest. This role is under threat from fires, which affect large areas of forest every year, particularly in the southern part of the Community.

Will the Commission therefore say what the European Community plans to do to support the volunteer fire-fighting organisations in the Member States?