

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2316/03
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to the Commission

Subject: Knowledge of languages in the Union

Following the widespread introduction of new multi-media technologies, for example DVD technology, Europeans can buy films and watch them in the various Union languages. However, increasingly often DVD's on the market offer films in two language versions at the most, and do not always provide subtitles for each language version.

1. Does the Commission not consider that the potential of technologies should be exploited to the full in order to spread knowledge of Community languages as much as possible, thereby implementing one of the principal commitments made at the Lisbon European Council?
2. What legislative steps and other measures will the Commission take to ensure that European citizens, using the technology mentioned, can learn the languages of other European peoples by watching films?