

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2803/03
by Domenico Mennitti (PPE-DE)
to the Council

Subject: Policies for the benefit of Mediterranean countries

The process of European integration has now reached its final stage with the accession of ten new countries. It is therefore essential to create the infrastructure to promote economic relations within a territory which has increased enormously in size. Not least because the Union's centre of gravity has shifted eastwards, a policy for the benefit of southern Europe, in particular southern Italy, needs to be introduced. It is natural to expect that the Italian Presidency of the EU will devise and develop a policy to revitalise the Mediterranean countries.

Can the Council say what steps it will take to enhance development in the Mediterranean area? Does it not consider, in this context, that it should devote particular attention to the creation of the infrastructure (in particular Corridor 8) considered appropriate to promote this process?