

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0116/04
by Dana Scallon (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Leader II projects - Blue Dragon case

1. Regarding Leader II projects, can the Commission confirm that the Kingdom of Spain is receiving 30% of the European subsidies?. Is the Commission aware that in the Blue Dragon 2000 case, the accounts of the GAL Salines-Bassegoda were certified by the Spanish Government? Is the Commission aware that a sum of EUR 43 000 was transferred in France? Is the Commission aware that the Regional Minister Josep Grau, in charge of the local control, recognised the Blue Dragon 2000 people as victims, but that no complaint was ever lodged to any penal court?
2. Knowing that the people of Blue Dragon supported OLAF with material evidence leading to a penal treatment of the case from September 2000 to November 2001, is the Commission aware that, although acknowledging irregularities, OLAF adhered to the Spanish conclusions? Can the Commission explain why no investigation on both Spanish and French territories was opened?
3. Knowing that an official complaint was placed against the Kingdom of Spain on 9 March 2002 by the people of Blue Dragon, how would the Commission interpret that the validity of this complaint seems still under scrutiny?
4. The owners of Blue Dragon 2000 have experienced extreme difficulties and damages in the last five years, which they described as extreme prejudice due to important deficiencies of the shared management process. How would the Commission advise these owners, European citizens that were willing to trust the European system, to act in order to try to repair the moral and financial damage caused?