

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0394/04

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to the Commission

Subject: Measures against hunger in the EU

The alarming increase in the numbers of people suffering from hunger in Europe (estimated at 100 million European citizens in the 25-Member Union), alongside the disappearance of intervention stocks as a result of the new CAP guidelines, is a cause for real alarm. The CAP is apparently no longer capable of ensuring, as laid down in the Treaties, adequate supplies for all its citizens, and particularly the most destitute.

At the same time, it appears that all the NGOs and solidarity associations working on a daily basis with the poorest members of European society, are unable to take action and fulfil their role of enhancing social and human cohesion. Given this situation, does the Commission, which was the originator of the European Programme for Aid to the Destitute (EPAD), envisage modifying - and within what time frame - Regulation (EEC) 3149/92<sup>1</sup> which would both ensure the existence of safeguard stocks, extend the barter practices which have proved both simple and effective, facilitate market access where necessary, and include these associations in assessing the needs?

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 313, 30.10.1992, p. 50.