

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0630/04
by Antonios Trakatellis (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Official Development Assistance (ODA) of the Union: funding by Member States, actions in the Balkans and application of conditionality and Community rules

Funding of development aid by the Union fell from 0.45% in 1990 to 0.33% in 2001, which is significantly below the political commitment of 0.7% GDP announced by the UN and the Göteborg European Council. The Council has therefore included a binding commitment for ODA to reach 0.39% of GDP by 2006 in the Community acquis for the new Member States as an interim step to eventually reaching 0.7% of GDP. Since in many Member States implementation of ODA is lagging behind, for instance in Greece's five-year programme for development cooperation and aid (2002-06), will the Commission say:

1. What is the percentage ODA of the Union and each individual Member State for 2002 and 2003, and how much does this amount to in millions of euros (EUR) in the Member States?
2. Why has Greece's five-year programme for development cooperation and aid (2002-06) for the Balkans, the Black Sea, etc. been delayed, what is the overall level of appropriations spent (commitment appropriations) and what percentage of Greece's ODA does this represent for 2002 and 2003?
3. Is the ODA of Member States of the Union in the Balkans linked to actions of the European Agency for Reconstruction¹, the implementation of the CARDS² programme and the Stability Pact for South East Europe, and what is the Union's contribution within the framework of the implementation of Greece's ODA in the Balkans, on the basis of plans for infrastructures and public works (networks, roads etc.)?
4. Is assistance being suspended in the event of a failure to respect human rights and are Community rules being respected (for instance, on public procurement contracts etc.) by the services or bodies which have undertaken to implement the Union's ODA plans and programmes and, if so, which regions are concerned?

¹ Regulation 2415/2001/EC of 10.12.2001, OJ L 327, 12.12.2001 (amending Regulations 2666/2000/EC and 2667/2000 of 5.12.2000, OJ L 306 of 7.12.2000).

² Programme for Community Assistance for Reconstruction, Development and Stabilization. Regulation 2666/2000/EC, 5.12.2000, OJ L 306, 7.12.2000.