

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0896/04
by Francesco Fiori (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Croatia

On 1 May 2004, ten new states will join the European Union and will take part in European elections for the first time on 13 June. It is hoped that a further two candidate countries, Bulgaria and Romania, will join the European Union, in 2007 provided that they meet the political and economic conditions referred to as the Copenhagen criteria.

Croatia has asked to start negotiations to join the European Union.

What action is the European Commission taking to encourage the opening of negotiations with Croatia in March 2004?