

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0646/05
by Luís Queiró (PPE-DE)
to the Council

Subject: Tourism and the financial perspective

Tourism is extremely important to the European economy and to specific countries and regions where it plays a key economic role.

It is important to bear in mind the complexity and diversity of this sector, which has a major impact on our economic and social lives and affects many businesses, many economic sectors and millions of EU citizens.

The Presidency-in-Office of the Council has announced a set of initiatives and the Commission has already begun work on sustainable tourism and the promotion of Europe as a destination. These are important steps towards more sustainable development in this sector.

However, the fact that no budgetary heading has yet been created to support the development of tourism is a source of concern.

I wish to reiterate that the financial perspective should in future make provision for adequate levels of EU support for tourism, through the creation of a specific budget heading, and for economic development through tourism, with support, if necessary, from the Structural Funds.

Will the Council therefore agree to the inclusion of a budget heading to support the development of tourism?