

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3504/05
by Jean-Marie Le Pen (NI)
to the Council

Subject: Inequalities between MEPs as regards working languages

The European Union's language arrangements are very clear. Article 290 of the EC Treaty stipulates that the rules governing the languages of the institutions of the Community are to be determined by the Council. French, like all the other languages, is an official language and working language in the EU institutions and should therefore be covered by the principle of equality among languages.

Similarly, Rule 138 of the European Parliament's Rules of Procedure stipulates that 'all documents of Parliament shall be drawn up in the official languages'.

In the light of the above, how can the Council justify the fact that these provisions of the Treaty and the EP Rules of Procedure are systematically breached, as illustrated by the fact that plenary voting tables, TV-monitor details of meetings and a number of official documents now appear in only one language of the European Union?