

WRITTEN QUESTION E-4714/05
by Paweł Piskorski (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Freedom of speech in Tunisia

Respect for human rights, including the freedom of speech, is an essential part of the cooperation agreements the European Union concludes with third countries. During the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in Tunisia, journalists complained of numerous difficulties. Furthermore, the President of Switzerland, representing the country where the first phase of the summit, held in Geneva, took place in 2003, was censored by Tunisian television.

What is the Commission's view on freedom of speech in Tunisia? What steps will the Commission take in order to promote dialogue and respect for fundamental rights and freedoms? What conclusions will it draw from recent events?