

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2943/06
by Cecilia Malmström (ALDE)
to the Commission

Subject: Aung San Suu Kyi

On Friday, 9 June 2006, the US State Department announced that Aung San Suu Kyi had been taken to hospital for treatment. A spokesperson for Aung San Suu Kyi's party, the National League for Democracy (NLD), reports that Suu Kyi is being attended by doctors at home. It is important that Aung San Suu Kyi receives the medical assistance that she needs. The Swedish Government and the UN should monitor this situation, particularly in the light of reports that during her meeting with UN representative Gambari earlier in the spring, Suu Kyi had indicated that she needed better medical assistance. The information that the peace activist and leader of the democratic opposition is feared to be ill gives the outside world cause for concern. Aung San Suu Kyi must be given her freedom, as with other political prisoners in Burma. Recently, the military junta extended her house arrest for a further term despite UN calls to set her free.

In the light of this situation, will the Commission say what measures the EU intends to take in response to the reports concerning Aung San Suu Kyi's state of health and repeated demands that she be released?