

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3286/07  
by Georgios Karatzaferis (IND/DEM)  
to the Commission

Subject: Arta Castle and funding from the 3rd CSF

The inhabitants of Arta and cultural organisations in the prefecture are protesting at the continued closure of the historic castle at Arta, which has remained inaccessible to the public for 17 whole years (since 1990) 'possibly because of vested interests', as it is claimed. The Hellenic Ministry of Culture appears to be indifferent about the matter, whereas numerous proposals have been made to re-open the castle for cultural activities, such as to house a library, theatre or even a university faculty, which would be an innovative project in Greece and would revitalise the economy of this Epirus town. Epirus, it should be noted, is one of the poorest regions in the EU according to Eurostat statistics.

Has provision been made for funding for this historic castle from the 3rd CSF? Has provision been made in the 4th CSF for co-funding in order to develop this project?