

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3822/07
by Adriana Poli Bortone (UEN)
to the Commission

Subject: Non-recognition of the refugee status of Eritrean refugees in Italy

European policy vis-à-vis refugees and asylum-seekers is based on the application of the Geneva Convention.

With the Amsterdam Treaty and the Tampere European Council, the asylum question became to all intents and purposes a Community issue, as shown by the definitive shift to the codecision procedure.

Regrettably, the Italian State fails to recognise the refugee and political-asylum-seeker status of the Eritrean refugees in Italy.

The Italian State expressly recognises the right of asylum in Article 10 of its Constitution.

This being the case, can the Commission:

1. say whether the Italian State's failure to recognise the refugee status of the Eritrean refugees complies with the established European principles on this subject;
2. give indications as to how this particular case could be resolved?