

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3866/07  
by Gian Paolo Gobbo (UEN)  
to the Commission

Subject: Protection and promotion of the Venetian language

The recognition and protection of linguistic differences undoubtedly contributes to the construction of a European Union that is genuinely representative of the identities and histories of the peoples that make it up.

In this connection it should be pointed out that the Venetian language is still spoken (see ISTAT 2006 survey) by over 60% of the inhabitants of the Veneto, particularly in a family setting. The recent approval by the Veneto Regional Council of a regulation in support of the 'Protection, optimisation and promotion of the linguistic cultural heritage of the Veneto' forms part of this picture.

- Does the European Commission not consider it a good thing to support the efforts of the institutions and citizens of the Veneto in defence of their linguistic identity?
- Does the Commission not take the view that the recent agreements on recognition of the use of the Basque and Catalan languages in the European institutions could also be extended to the Venetian language?