

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2696/08  
by Vural Öger (PSE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Integration capacity of the European Union

Section 3 of the European Commission's 'Enlargement Strategy 2007-2008' contains the following sentence: 'Full attention is paid to the EU's integration capacity at key stages of the accession process'.

The Commission document gives no precise definition of 'integration capacity'. Does the term 'EU's integration capacity' refer to the effective functioning of the EU institutions, or does it also encompass socio-economic goals in the EU Member States? Does the Commission intend to draw up a definition which makes clear precisely what is meant by 'EU's integration capacity'? Is 'integration capacity' one of the Copenhagen criteria? If so, in what document is 'integration capacity' laid down as a Copenhagen criterion?