

WRITTEN QUESTION E-4055/08  
by Gianluca Susta (ALDE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Ozone levels

Failure to disseminate information on ozone levels breaches a right set forth in Directive 2003/4/EC<sup>1</sup>.

The current hot weather, together with vehicle exhaust gases, has increased the level of ozone in the atmosphere significantly. This situation poses great risks, since this dangerous pollutant has very serious effects on health, particularly that of children, the elderly and those with heat conditions or respiratory complaints, who are most sensitive to the presence of ozone.

The public is entitled to be informed whether the ozone levels laid down by law have been exceeded and institutions have a duty to perform this task in good time, offering clear indications of the risks posed by exposure to ozone and the precautions needing to be taken..

In recent days, civil protection authorities have warned that Rome is one of the hottest cities in Italy and recorded ozone levels have exceeded the limits, yet the local authorities continue, irresponsibly, to underestimate the situation and to shelter behind a phantom anti-pollution plan of which nothing is known.

Will the Commission take steps to ensure that the citizens of Rome are able to enjoy the right to information laid down in Directive 2003/4/EC?

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 41, 14.2.2003, p. 26.