

WRITTEN QUESTION E-4101/08  
by Gianluca Susta (ALDE)  
to the Commission

Subject: First-generation biofuels

An internal World Bank report seems to point the finger at first-generation biofuels as one of the main causes of the rise in food prices, thanks to a decline in global wheat and maize stocks.

Second-generation biofuels, i.e. those produced from food waste, urban waste and agricultural and food industry waste, which not only have the advantage of offering an alternative to oil, but also reduce pollution, help to curb the refuse problem and do not eat into food stocks. They therefore represent a viable option for the future.

In the light of the World Bank study, will the Commission focus on investment in second-generation biofuels in preference to first-generation ones, which have proved to be counter-productive?