

WRITTEN QUESTION E-4553/08  
by Glenys Kinnock (PSE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Ensuring full respect for the sovereignty of parties to EPAs

It is a fundamental feature of EU decision-making that international trade agreements should in no way undermine the sovereignty of Member States and EU decision-making procedures, and that it remains the responsibility of the EU Council to determine how the EU should implement commitments freely entered into within the framework of its international obligations and the rule of law.

Against this background, does the European Commission accept that the provisions of full/interim EPAs should fully respect the sovereign rights of ACP governments and regional organisations, in determining how commitments freely entered into should be implemented within the framework of existing regional and international commitments and respect for the rule of law?