

WRITTEN QUESTION E-5190/08
by Vural Öger (PSE)
to the Commission

Subject: ENP/regional neighbourhood initiatives

How does the Commission view the regional initiatives taking place in the EU's neighbourhood, for example the 'Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean' and the 'Eastern Partnership', as regards the future orientation and strategic importance of the European Neighbourhood Policy? How does it respond to the assumption that this reorientation will herald the demise of the original ENP concept, encompassing all neighbouring countries within a single frame of reference? Does it believe that the ENP should be split into an eastern and a southern dimension? What would be its attitude to a scenario in which the ENP was also broken up at the institutional level and divided into two policy areas, one covering the Union for the Mediterranean and the other, the Eastern Partnership? Could the Eastern Partnership conceivably be brought in the longer term under the responsibility of the Enlargement Directorate-General?