

WRITTEN QUESTION E-6518/08
by Adamos Adamou (GUE/NGL)
to the Commission

Subject: Keeping the public deficit at 3% of GDP

To what extent does the Commission consider that the objective of keeping the public deficit of the Member States to below 3% of GDP, as set out in its communication entitled 'From financial crisis to recovery: A European framework for action' (COM(2008)706) in the chapter devoted to the Stability and Growth Pact, is appropriate and attainable, particularly in the current climate?

It must be realised that the spectres of recession, economic damage inflicted by the financial crisis, unemployment and underemployment, are looming increasingly large.

Will the Commission at a later stage envisage an adjustment to the criteria set out in the Revised Stability and Growth Pact with a view to relaxing budgetary discipline in line with the needs of society, thereby enabling Member States to increase their social expenditure?