

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0827/09

by Costas Botopoulos (PSE) and Katerina Batzeli (PSE)
to the Commission

Subject: Issue of a European bond and financing of key areas of the Lisbon strategy

The difference between the rates of interest at which the countries in the eurozone borrow poses serious problems in terms of the operation of the eurozone and has already provoked attacks on the credibility of the single European currency. In the light of thereof and, in particular, with a view to the most effective and socially just response by the eurozone to the latent economic crisis, will the Commission answer the following questions?

1. Does it consider that it would be expedient to issue a common European bond with the aim of reducing the divergences between interest rates in the eurozone, strengthening the stability of the euro and boosting its role on the international market, as already requested by numerous European NGOs, trade union organisations and eminent Europeans, such as the former Commission President, Jacques Delors?
2. If so, to what extent does it intend - in the context of the principle of justice between the generations - to link the issue of a European bond with a commitment by Member States to finance key areas of the Lisbon strategy, such as 'green investment', energy independence and trans-European networks?