

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2759/09
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to the Commission

Subject: Active dialogue with citizens

Active dialogue with citizens on Europe is at present far too limited. In many cases, information on the EU reaches only the better educated and wealthier sections of the population – a situation which generates scepticism and antipathy among other sections of the population. Educating the general public is of key importance to the further development of the European Community.

The report on active dialogue with citizens on Europe (2008/2224(INI)) that was adopted by the European Parliament sets out a number of ways of reaching the widest possible audience, including the introduction of a one-year common European curriculum on the history of Europe after 1945 to be used in schools and the setting up of a news channel along the lines of CNN and of web sites designed to be as accessible as possible to young people.

Given the above, would the Commission state:

1. What further steps it intends to take to disseminate information through the media and other appropriate channels at national, regional and local level?
2. How it intends to broaden the dialogue at all levels and tailor its message to target groups at all levels of society?
3. Whether, in the run-up to the forthcoming European elections, it intends to conduct small-scale, local EU information campaigns?