

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3302/09
by Domenico Antonio Basile (UEN)
to the Council

Subject: Climate change and global warming

The 66th Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue meeting between delegations of the United States Congress and the European Parliament held at the Chamber of Deputies in Prague from 17 to 20 April provided an opportunity to discuss their respective positions with regard to energy and environmental policies, among other matters.

On the specific subject of environmental policy, a substantial convergence of views emerged for the first time between some circles within the US and European Parliaments about the over-emphasis which has been placed, over the last 30 years, on the theory of global warming which lays most of the blame for climate change on humankind and industry. President Obama's recent statements appear to indicate that he endorses this catastrophist theory.

Some American and European legislators, challenging the alleged 'scientific' basis of this theory of climate change, pointed out that incontrovertible scientific data indicates that the month of February 2008 was the coldest from 2000 to date and no global warming has been recorded in the course of the last decade. They called for the substantial resources allocated by the European Union to tackle this supposedly imminent environmental disaster, for which human activities bear only 0.2% of the responsibility according to the most pessimistic estimates, to be used instead to address some of the most serious problems facing humankind, from malaria to AIDS.

In the light of the foregoing, does the Council believe that the current Czech Presidency could be seen to reverse the trend of the Union's environmental and energy policies, thus scaling down the undue emphasis on climate change and directing greater attention, and financial resources, to more important problems such as malaria and AIDS?