

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3470/09
by Ilda Figueiredo (GUE/NGL)
to the Commission

Subject: Support for the development of Trás-os-Montes (Portugal)

At a recent meeting with association organisers in Miranda do Douro (Portugal), my attention was drawn to the need to ensure financing for an integrated strategic development programme for the region of Trás-os-Montes and Alto Douro, to be drawn up in decentralised fashion with the participation of local public bodies and associations present in the region and to be designed so as to respond to the region's specific needs, combat the continuing problem of desertification, create conditions enabling people, including the young, to stay in the region, and promote social progress and development.

Can the Commission state:

1. whether it believes there is a possibility of financing an application prepared along the above lines, with a view to promoting social progress and development in Trás-os-Montes and Alto Douro, preserving the region's rich heritage (including the immaterial heritage), putting the emphasis on people, their activities and their important cultural and environmental traditions, and ensuring the sustainability of their activities;
2. what is the total sum regarding applications and projects in this region financed or being financed from Community funds, in particular under the programmes Leader +, Interreg and PRODER, since the beginning of 2007?