

**Question for written answer E-001149/2011
to the Commission
Rule 117
Dominique Baudis (PPE)**

Subject: Allocation of ENPI appropriations between the ENP East and ENP South

The European Neighbourhood Policy is a key element in the European Union's foreign policy. Its implementation impacts not only on the economy of the EU, but also on its security.

The Neighbourhood Policy concerns two geographical areas: the countries to the east of the European Union and the countries to the south of the Mediterranean.

The current allocation of the European funds dedicated to the Neighbourhood Policy reflects the respective demographic weights of the two areas and the nature of the objectives (structural infrastructure projects in the South and enhanced technical assistance with governance for the countries in the East). Accordingly, two thirds of the appropriations are allocated to ENP South and one third to ENP East.

The accession to the EU of ten or so countries from the East during the last decade has resulted in a growing interest on the part of the European Union, and particularly of MEPs, in the East. Thus, MEPs from countries linked by geographical and historical ties with the Southern Mediterranean now constitute less than a quarter of the membership of the European Parliament, whereas MEPs from countries with geographical and historical ties with the East represent between 28% and 43% of EP Members, depending on whether Germany and Austria are taken into account or not. There are therefore legitimate concerns that the principle on which the appropriations are split between the East and the South may be called into question.

Can the Commission provide assurances that the principle underpinning the allocation of appropriations for the European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument will be maintained?