

**Question for written answer E-003269/2011
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Dominique Baudis (PPE)

Subject: Finance for Mediterranean culture

Culture forges a society's identity. It is also a way of sharing and fosters mutual understanding. The Union for the Mediterranean was intended to facilitate an ongoing dialogue between peoples who have much more than their history in common. Among the means at our disposal, cultural exchanges must play the major part that they merit.

Europe is aware of what is at stake and its ambitions are particularly evident in its neighbourhood policy towards the South. Very many cultural associations and foundations have committed themselves to this venture. Many of them comment that it is difficult to understand what Europe can do to assist.

1. In what way does the Commission support these cultural associations and foundations?
2. How can European cultural policy help the initiatives of these associations and foundations?
3. Which programmes support these initiatives? Please list all of them.