Question for written answer E-000691/2012 to the Commission Rule 117 Ana Miranda (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Use of EU funds on bullfighting II

In late 2010, the mayor of the Portuguese town of Estremoz announced that the town's bullring would be renovated, involving an investment of around EUR 2.5 million. It is scheduled to reopen in April 2012. The renovation of this bullring, situated in a town of little more than 7 000 people, will be paid for by everyone in Europe, since Estremoz has included the work in its town regeneration plan. According to the town's budget, that plan has received around EUR 875 000 of ERDF funding for the bullring renovation alone, representing a significant proportion of the overall budget.

- Given that this is far from the first occasion on which the Greens/EFA Group has reported that EU funds are being used to renovate bullrings, can the Commission confirm whether EU funding is being spent on facilities designed solely for the purpose of bullfighting events?
- Does the Commission think that bullfighting facilities should be financed with EU funds?
- Does the Commission have a record of other European funding being used to carry out building work and projects relating to bullfighting in other Member States?