

ORAL QUESTION H-0044/02
for Question Time at the part-session in February 2002
pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure
by Giorgos Katiforis
to the Council

Subject: Programme of the Spanish Presidency - Enlargement and Turkey - Copenhagen political criteria

The section of the Spanish Presidency's programme concerning enlargement of the EU (last paragraph) proposes to encourage Turkey with its pre-accession strategy in line with the conclusions of the Laeken European Council. The Presidency also notes that the strategy should mark a new stage in analysing Turkey's preparedness for alignment with the *acquis*, and, if required, set new objectives in the accession process..

Could the Council describe this new stage in greater detail? Could it specify the possible new objectives of the Presidency and explain how the above relates to meeting the Copenhagen political criteria, which must be fulfilled before accession negotiations can be embarked upon?

Tabled: 24.01.2002
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