

ORAL QUESTION H-0708/02  
for Question Time at the part-session in October 2002  
pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure  
by Konstantinos Alyssandrakis  
to the Commission

Subject: One European in five living below the poverty level

According to recent EUROSTAT findings 18% of the EU population, that is to say almost one European in five, is living below the poverty level, the figures for Greece being the highest, 22%, that is to say almost one-quarter of the Greek population. Despite these alarming statistics, which are apparently neglected for policy-making purposes, proposals are still being tabled to further reduce wages and salaries and extend flexible manning policies which, far from alleviating the problem are likely to have the opposite effect.

What steps will the Commission take to improve individual incomes in the EU and, as far as possible, alleviate poverty in the European Union, which is regarded as one of the major world economic powers?

Tabled: 10.10.2002  
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