

ORAL QUESTION H-0017/04
for Question Time at the part-session in February 2004
pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure
by Martin Kastler
to the Council

Subject: Embryo research under the Sixth Research Framework Programme

No agreement was reached by the Council of Ministers in December on funding for embryonic stem cell research from the EU budget. The Parliament is also split on this issue. Commissioner Busquin has interpreted this to mean that in principle funding can now be granted. Is this correct?

Is there still any way to prevent destructive embryo research, which is banned in several Member States, receiving financial support from the EU?

What are the plans of the Council of Ministers as regards future work on this controversial issue?

What steps will the Irish Presidency take to prevent research projects which are banned in certain Member States (including Ireland) receiving EU research funding in future?

Tabled: 19.01.2004
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