

ORAL QUESTION H-0236/06
for Question Time at the part-session in April 2006
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure
by Antonio López-Istúriz White
to the Commission

Subject: Balears Parliament

Recently, a group of members of the Parliament of the Balearic Islands, from a number of political parties, were unable to travel to the Sahara because of pressure from the Moroccan authorities, according to the claims of the airline which had been contracted to carry them.

The experience of these members of parliament comes as the latest in a series of similar disappointments experienced by other Spanish parliamentary delegations in recent months; in this case, the matter is, if possible, even more serious, because the blocking of the mission took place not on arrival, but even before the members of parliament had boarded the plane in question at Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.

In other words, according to the airline's explanation, Morocco prevented the members of parliament from boarding a plane on Spanish and therefore European territory.

What information about these events does the Commission have? Does it intend to open an investigation into what happened, or to take any steps with regard to Morocco so that the situation does not occur again? Will the Commission be asking for information from the Spanish Government, given its inaction in respect of this unprecedented development?

Tabled: 16.03.2006
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