

ORAL QUESTION H-0492/07
for Question Time at the part-session in July 2007
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure
by Danutė Budreikaitė
to the Commission

Subject: Regional policy

The aim of EU regional policy, pursued through the provision of support under one of the Structural Funds, the European Regional Development Fund, is to reduce disparities in development among the regions of Europe.

Lithuania is classified as a region and receives support as a single region. In terms of geography and cultural traditions, however, Lithuania is made up of four regions with widely differing levels of development. Those regions are characterised by differing degrees of economic development, differing employment situations and differing social problems.

Can the Commission indicate what scope there is for implementing regional policy more flexibly? Could Lithuania not disburse regional development funding on a decentralised basis, allocating resources to its regions in keeping with their levels of development and the need to reduce disparities in the level of development within the country as a whole? What measures could Lithuania take with a view to putting a more flexible approach of this kind into practice?

Tabled: 25.06.2007
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