

ORAL QUESTION H-0857/07

for Question Time at the part-session in November 2007  
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure  
by Roberta Alma Anastase  
to the Commission

Subject: Proposed measures to protect language rights, including those of Romanians, and to promote multilingualism in the context of the Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008

2008 has been declared the Year of Intercultural Dialogue, and cultural diversity and mutual tolerance are among the EU's fundamental values. At the same time, specific cases of failure to respect the rights of national minorities and, above all, their language rights are being reported both in EU Member States and in neighbouring countries. A flagrant example is the situation of Romanian communities and the neglect of their language rights in numerous European countries, with the risk of decay and oblivion for Romanian, an official language of the EU.

In view of the attention paid since January 2007 to multilingualism and the declaration of 2008 as Year of Intercultural Dialogue, what action does the Commission intend to take to promote dialogue and cultural diversity and to contribute to the improvement and consolidation of the level of protection of the language rights of national minorities, including minority Romanian communities? What instruments will be used in this sense, in the context of both the internal and the external policies of the Union?

Tabled: 25.10.2007  
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