

ORAL QUESTION H-0146/08
for Question Time at the part-session in March 2008
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure
by Zita Pleštinská
to the Council

Subject: Accession negotiations with Croatia

Unless the countries of south-east Europe join the EU it will not be possible for European integration to be described as a success. Slovenia has been a full member of the EU since 1 May 2004, whereas the Croatians are merely aiming for that status. Border relations between Slovenia and Croatia have been a familiar topic for a number of years. The declaration of an ecological fishing area at the beginning of this year has further complicated Croatia's accession negotiations with the EU.

What view does the Council take concerning the settlement of the dispute concerning the border between Slovenia (which currently holds the EU Presidency) and Croatia (which is striving for EU accession)? Does the Council think it appropriate for bilateral issues to become tangled up with the accession negotiating process? How long does the Council think it will take for the situation to be resolved in a way which is acceptable to both sides? When will it be possible for Croatia's accession negotiations with the EU to be resumed?

Tabled: 26.02.2008
sk