

ORAL QUESTION H-0560/08
for Question Time at the part-session in September I 2008
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure
by Vural Öger
to the Commission

Subject: Eastern partnership - Forms of regional cooperation in the European Neighbourhood area

Following the establishment of the Union for the Mediterranean, consideration is now being given at European level to establishing a Union for Eastern Europe. The idea of creating a Union for the Black Sea has also been mooted. In May 2008 Sweden and Poland came forward with a working document entitled 'Eastern Partnership', proposing enhanced cooperation between the EU and Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia and Belarus.

What is the Commission's view of the proposal for an EU-Eastern Europe Union? Will the Commission come up with concrete proposals for such a partnership in the form of a Communication, as it did with the Union for the Mediterranean? Can the Commission give any information on the basic pillars of such a partnership? Will the Union for the Mediterranean serve as a model in this and will the emphasis in the Union for Eastern Europe likewise be laid on project-focused cooperation? Has the Commission any preference concerning the name of this union? What is the Commission's position on the fundamental principle of the creation of several and various 'Unions'?

Tabled: 02.07.2008
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