

ORAL QUESTION H-0183/09
for Question Time at the part-session in April 2009
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure
by Lambert van Nistelrooij
to the Commission

Subject: EU and Member States' research budgets

Currently, 85% of European public research funding is spent nationally without any transnational collaboration between programmes or competition between researchers from different Member States. National programmes often unnecessarily duplicate each other or lack the scope and depth required to make a significant impact on these major challenges. National research on major societal challenges such as renewable energies, climate change or brain diseases will have more impact if efforts are combined at the European level.

Does the Commission agree that combining the national programmes into a joint research agenda could provide the critical mass needed to achieve just that, to the benefit of European citizens?

Does the Commission think that Joint Programming by Member States and the Commission of the setting up of Article 169 initiatives is the answer to the fear of duplication of research efforts throughout the 27 Member States?

Tabled: 18.03.2009
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