

ORAL QUESTION O-0072/00

pursuant to Rule 42 of the Rules of Procedure

by Pierre Schori, Pasqualina Napoletano, Raimon Obiols i Germà and Jannis Sakellariou, on behalf of the PSE Group
to the Commission

Subject: Tunisia

Recent threats to freedom of expression, the independence of the press and human rights, particularly in connection with the issue of passports to pro-democracy campaigners, have caused widespread concern in the media and among the general public in the European Union.

What action has the Commission taken or does it intend to take in response to this situation, within the framework of the EU-Tunisia partnership, and the Association Council in particular?

Does the Commission consider that there is a need for specific measures?

In the Commission's opinion, are there any signs that the situation in Tunisia as regards media freedoms and human rights in general is likely to improve?

Tabled: 18.05.2000

Forwarded: 22.05.2000

Deadline for reply: 29.05.2000