

ORAL QUESTION O-0089/00
pursuant to Rule 42 of the Rules of Procedure
by Luís Queiró, on behalf of the UEN Group
to the Council

Subject: Relations between the European Union and Tunisia

A series of public accusations have been levelled at the Tunisian authorities throughout the past month, chiefly regarding failure to respect human rights and violations of rights, freedoms and guarantees in that country.

Given that relations between the European Union and Tunisia are of the utmost importance and merit close attention because, if they develop in a positive manner, they could provide a model for relations with other Mediterranean countries with which the EU and its Member States can and must form deeper cooperation links, and bearing in mind that implementation of the association agreement by the respective authorities is also proceeding smoothly, can the Council say whether or not there have been human rights violations or violations of other civic rights, freedoms and guarantees in Tunisia which might in some way cast a shadow on or call into question relations between the EU and Tunisia? If so, what action has the Council taken to improve the situation so that relations between the EU and Tunisia can continue or be put back on the right course?

Tabled: 26.05.2000

Forwarded: 29.05.2000

Deadline for reply: 19.06.2000