ORAL QUESTION O-0115/01 pursuant to Rule 42 of the Rules of Procedure by Eluned Morgan and Barbara O'Toole, on behalf of the PSE Group to the Council

Subject: Minority languages

2001 was the European year of languages, and whilst language and cultural diversity in the European Union is strongly supported by both the Council and the Commission, the 40 million people who speak minority languages in the EU are badly served linguistically from an EU point of view.

What does the Council intend to do in order to promote linguistic and cultural diversity for minority languages within the member states of the European Union?

How will the Council guarantee that lesser used languages will be an integral part of all relevant Community programmes, as foreseen in Article 22 of the Charter on Fundamental Rights of the EU?

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