ORAL QUESTION O-0067/02 pursuant to Rule 42 of the Rules of Procedure by Carles-Alfred Gasòliba i Böhm and Maria Sanders-ten Holte, on behalf of the ELDR Group to the Commission

Subject: MERCOSUR

With regard to the dramatic turn of events in some countries of MERCOSUR and in order to show continued EU support for this region:

What are the cooperation strategies and the priorities put forward by the EU?

What is the current state of trade talks between the EU and MERCOSUR following the mandate given to the Commission at the Madrid Summit to intensify the negotiation process?

Would it not be appropriate for the Commission to identify those MERCOSUR members who still have a lot of progress to make on good governance, in order to include them in the 'European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights'?

Tabled: 18.09.2002 Forwarded: 20.09.2002

Deadline for reply: 27.09.2002

477664.EN PE 295.327