

**Question for oral answer O-0158/2010
to the Council**

Rule 115

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on behalf of the S&D Group

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on behalf of the PPE Group

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on behalf of the ALDE Group

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on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

Subject: Innovation Partnerships within the Innovation Union flagship initiative

On 6 October 2010 the Commission adopted the Communication on Innovation Union (COM(2010)0546). The concept of European Innovation Partnerships is an essential part of the action commitments under this flagship initiative. In its communication, the Commission proposed that the first such pilot partnership, on the subject of 'Active and Healthy Ageing', be launched in early 2011. A further five topics have been suggested for possible future partnerships, which the Commission will propose as of February 2011 on the basis of selection criteria that it is currently drawing up.

1. Is the Council planning to endorse, by the end of 2010, any further topics for possible future partnerships in addition to the one suggested by the Commission?
2. The Commission has already suggested a number of potential future topics. However, in the Council's view, what should be the priority criteria behind the selection of the next Innovation Partnership/s following the one on 'Active and Healthy Ageing'?
3. In its communication, the Commission has set out the timetable and basic principles that will underpin these Innovation Partnerships. Is the Council planning to endorse these?
4. What governance arrangements does the Council envisage for the Innovation Partnerships at the national level?

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Forwarded: 14.10.2010

Deadline for reply: 4.11.2010