

WRITTEN QUESTION P-3091/00

by Karla Peijs (PPE-DE)

to the Commission

Subject: The voluntary agreement proposed by the Commission on the safety of oil tankers operating in the EU

The Commission has recently presented a package introducing EU legislative measures for improving maritime safety. In its Communication on the safety of seaborne oil trade, the Commission proposed a voluntary agreement with industry. In this context, the Commission proposes a thorough discussion between organisations representing the main operators, which effectively cuts across the current legislative process.

- Why has the European Parliament not been officially informed of, or involved in, the Commission's ongoing efforts to reach a voluntary agreement with industry on maritime safety following the Erika oil spill?
- What guarantees can the Commission give that any such efforts take into account the views of the European Parliament and other sectors of civil society?
- Can there be a consistency between any such voluntary agreement reached in advance of the conclusion of the legislative process underway in the same area?