

WRITTEN QUESTION P-0565/02
by Elisa Damião (PSE)
to the Commission

Subject: Lisbon strategy

The Lisbon strategy for the years up to 2005 and 2010 has set employment growth targets to increase the number of women in work to 60% and the overall rate to 70%. The hope is that this growth will be founded simultaneously on technological innovation and social cohesion. However, the forward study by the Science and Technology Observatory on the impact of technology and structural change on employment, covering the period up to 2020, is at variance with the targets and even maintains that the future productivity gain will benefit the economy but not employment, which, on the contrary, will continue to rise in the traditional business sectors.

How does the Commission propose to respond? Will it revise the Lisbon targets or adopt more realistic employment growth strategies?