

WRITTEN QUESTION P-2591/02
by Gian Gobbo (NI)
to the Commission

Subject: Priority to be given to Argentineans of European origin as far as immigration from outside the Community is concerned

The serious economic crisis which recently hit Argentina is inducing many Argentinean citizens of European origin to emigrate to the European Union, in particular Italy and Spain.

They are usually well-educated people who speak at least one Community language perfectly and whose integration into the Member States should pose no problems.

Does the Commission not consider it would be useful to create an aid programme to give priority and preference to the entry of these people into the countries where they have their roots?

Does it not consider that the supervised arrival of these new immigrants of European origin is preferable to the entry into our countries of immigrants from outside Europe who - for cultural, religious and socio-economic reasons - are often difficult to assimilate in our communities?