

WRITTEN QUESTION P-3851/02
by Arie Oostlander (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Kidnapping of Mr Arjan Erkel in the Russian Republic of Dagestan

On 12 August 2002 Mr Arjan Erkel, 32, who works for Médecins Sans Frontières Switzerland, was kidnapped by three unknown gunmen in Makhachkala, the capital of the Russian Republic of Dagestan. Since then, nothing more has been heard of him.

Is the Commission prepared to approach the Russian authorities and take steps which may assist his release and return to the Netherlands?