

WRITTEN QUESTION P-1251/03
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to the Commission

Subject: Crisis in the European tourist industry

At the end of 2002 the possibility that an armed conflict might break out in Iraq put a freeze on the reserves for summer 2003 and this brought to a halt the tentative recovery which the tourist industry had been experiencing since the middle of 2002. The outbreak of war in Iraq has only made matters worse.

This state of uncertainty may have a damaging effect on the European tourist industry and, consequently, on the EU's economy.

Has the Commission done anything to alleviate this state of affairs and if so, what? If not, is it intending to take any action?