WRITTEN QUESTION P-3364/03 by Christos Folias (PPE-DE) to the Commission

Subject: New regulatory framework for telecommunications

The new regulatory framework for telecommunications consists of the following four directives: 2002/19/EC¹ on access, 2002/20/EC² on authorisation, framework directive 2002/21/EC³, and 2002/22/EC⁴ on universal service. This framework is to support the development of competition and the resulting benefits to consumers and to promote the Lisbon objectives. The four directives should have been incorporated into national law by 24 July 2003 at the latest. The new measures under the directives were also to have been implemented on the same date.

Did all the Member States meet the deadline of 23 July 2003 for implementing the new regulatory framework? If not, which Member States did not do so?

In the event that some Member States have not duly complied with their obligations under the new framework, what measures will the Commission take - or what steps has it already taken - to ensure that the regulatory framework is implemented and within what timeframe?

Does the Commission agree that failure to transpose and implement the new regulatory framework undermines the efforts made to attain the Lisbon objectives?

¹ OJ L 108, 24.4.2002, p. 7

² OJ L 108, 24.4.2002, p. 21

³ OJ L 108, 24.4.2002, p. 33

⁴ OJ L 108, 24.4.2002, p. 51