

WRITTEN QUESTION P-0532/04
by Nelly Maes (Verts/ALE)
to the Commission

Subject: Nuclear submarines docked at Santo Stefano Island, Sardinia

US Navy nuclear submarines are docked at the base on Santo Stefano Island, in the La Maddalena archipelago, in Sardinia. Recently, an incident with potential radioactive effects was recorded. In Sardinia and Corsica, several movements have been alerting the authorities to the potential danger of nuclear pollution in the area.

Has the Italian Government informed the European Commission about the presence of nuclear submarines at Santo Stefano Island, as required by Article 37 of the Euratom Directive on Crossborder Effects? If not, what measures will the Commission take?

Does the Commission consider that Santo Stefano Island fulfils all the conditions required for the accommodation of nuclear submarines?

Under Directive 89/618/Euratom¹, Member States are required to ensure that the population likely to be affected in the event of a radiological emergency is given information about the health-protection measures applicable to it and about the action it should take in the event of such an emergency. Can the Commission indicate where this obligation is being fulfilled by the Member State involved?

¹ OJ L 357, 7.12.1989, p. 31.