

WRITTEN QUESTION P-1307/04  
by Matti Wuori (Verts/ALE)  
to the Commission

Subject: EU support for indigenous peoples

The Council Resolution of 13 November 1998 on indigenous peoples recognises that cooperation with and support for the establishment of partnerships with indigenous peoples is essential for the objectives of poverty elimination, sustainable development of natural resources, the observance of human rights and the development of democracy.

In its conclusions of 18 November 2002, the Council recalled its commitment to indigenous peoples, and specifically stated that the concerns of indigenous peoples should be integrated into the political dialogue with partner countries, as an integral part of the human rights clauses; that an analysis of the situation of indigenous peoples within partner countries be included in Country Strategy Papers; that indigenous peoples' issues be mainstreamed into the EU's policies, practices and work methods; that efforts be made to facilitate the identification of focal points on indigenous peoples' issues in all Commission services; and that the Commission ensure the training of its personnel, and coordination with the Member States in the field of external assistance.

How does the Commission ensure that the Council resolution of 1998 and the conclusions of 2002 are fully implemented?

Does the Commission treat the indigenous peoples as a target group in the programming of its European Initiative for Human Rights and Democracy in 2004, and in the multiannual programming following up this human rights initiative, and also the multiannual programming of all budgetary headings?

To what extent, and using what mechanisms, does the Commission ensure that indigenous peoples are integrated into dialogue with the partner countries, its own policies and programmes, and the consultation and involvement of indigenous peoples in the programming of EU action which affects them?

How does the Commission keep itself informed about the situation of indigenous peoples in the partner countries, above all with regard to human rights, but also in political, socio-economic, ecological and cultural terms?