WRITTEN QUESTION P-1348/04 by Willi Görlach (PSE) to the Commission

Subject: Subsidies for greyhound racing

German news magazines are running stories claiming that the EU is funding commercial greyhound racing in Ireland and Spain out of its budget for 'culture, sport and tourism'. According to one animal welfare organisation, racetrack operators and breeders are receiving around EUR 25m.

Can the Commission confirm whether EU monies are being used to support commercial greyhound racing and, if so, can it specify under which budget lines, under which EU programmes and in which Member States money has been allocated to support commercial greyhound racing in the last five budget years (1999-2003), including details of the amounts involved?

533526.EN PE 344.912