

WRITTEN QUESTION P-1390/04  
by Francesco Speroni (NI)  
to the Commission

Subject: Iraq

In line with the pledge given in his successful election campaign, the Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero has ordered the withdrawal of Spanish troops from Iraq; however, the armed forces of 12 of the 25 current and future Member States of the European Union are still there.

Why has Commission President Romano Prodi hailed the Spanish withdrawal as a realignment of Spain with Europe? Furthermore, why is the Commission President becoming involved in foreign policy issues which, under the Treaties, are the exclusive preserve of the Council?