

WRITTEN QUESTION P-2121/05
by Armando Dionisi (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Peace Courts in Europe

Since 1995, Italy's Peace Court has operated with increasing success and is now regarded as indispensable by the civil courts. It serves as an example which is being favourably viewed with interest elsewhere in Europe - such much so that France, Spain and the UK have established similar courts and other countries are moving in the same direction.

Would the Commission say whether any Community initiative has been introduced with a view to promoting civil courts of this type and making them more common?

Does the Commission think that studies should be carried out in the various EU countries with a view to having peace courts established throughout Europe?

Would the Commission endorse the setting up of a working party of experts and a monitoring unit for the purpose of analysing the situation in the various countries and identifying models which can be exported to them?

Taking as a model the Italian Peace Court, is the Commission intending to propose a directive designed to harmonise the various systems and to enable similar courts to be established in other EU countries?