WRITTEN QUESTION P-2422/08 by Ruth Hieronymi (PPE-DE) to the Commission

Subject: Subtitling of television programmes

On 10 April 2008, Written Declaration 0099/2007 on the subtitling of all public-service television programmes in the EU was published in the European Parliament.

In contrast to what is called for in the declaration, Parliament has already achieved the situation – in Directive 2007/65/EC (the Audiovisual Media Services Directive¹) – whereby Member States undertake to encourage media service providers under their jurisdiction to gradually make their services available to the hard of hearing and the visually impaired. (Article 3c, EEC 64).

What measures are being planned by the Commission in order to strengthen this obligation under the directive on audiovisual media services?

In addition to these measures, does the Commission intend to implement initiatives along the lines of the written declaration?

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¹ OJ L 332, 18.12.2007, p. 27.