

WRITTEN QUESTION P-6678/08
by José Javier Pomés Ruiz (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Publishing official maps of the EU containing illegal names of territories

Article 1 of the Statute of Autonomy for the Basque Country adopts the official term 'Euskadi or País Vasco' to describe the Spanish autonomous community in question.

However, the published maps distributed in Parliament, which appear to originate in the EU Publications Office, use the term 'Euskal Herria – País Vasco'.

The term 'Euskal Herria' is therefore invalid as a name for the Autonomous Community, because it contradicts existing Spanish legislation; it is, however, associated with a political scheme seeking to incorporate the Comunidad Foral de Navarra, other territories in the south of France and the Basque Country into a joint political body, something which is, furthermore, one of the goals publicly sought by the ETA terrorists.

Is the Publications Office aware of the fact that it is using maps which are not in conformity with Spanish law?

How long would it take for the Office to withdraw and replace these maps?

What kind of economic or administrative liability attaches to the conduct at issue here?