

WRITTEN QUESTION P-0244/09
by Fernando Fernández Martín (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Outermost regions and the Marco Polo II programme

The Commission has said that it intends to embark on a reform process in relation to the Marco Polo II programme.

The Commission communication on the outermost regions (COM(2008)0642) also places particular emphasis on the efforts required to boost the regional integration of the outermost regions.

Does the Commission believe that it is possible to use the opportunity offered by the forthcoming reform of the Marco Polo II programme to improve access to that programme for the outermost regions, bearing in mind their particular geographical characteristics and those of their maritime environment? If so, what procedure should be followed in order to acquire a more flexible and productive instrument to boost the development of the outermost regions and their integration into the sea areas surrounding them?