

WRITTEN QUESTION P-1116/09
by Adam Gierek (PSE)
to the Commission

Subject: Threat of environmental and humanitarian disaster posed by poor condition of the Włocławek dam on the river Vistula

The Commission was kind enough to answer my Written Question P-0167/09 concerning the threat of an environmental and humanitarian disaster on an international scale posed by the poor condition of the Włocławek dam on the river Vistula. The Commission needs to give this matter its full attention, since the likelihood of such a disaster is increasing all the time. It is to be hoped that Community provisions can be adopted as swiftly as possible to regulate the management of rivers and river basins in order to resolve the wider security problem. This is especially important for combating environmental threats which exceed the boundaries of individual Member States.

Could the Commission provide at least a general answer to the second matter raised in my earlier question, namely:

With reference to the 'climate and energy' package which has been adopted and in the light of global climate change and the anticipated drinking water shortages in Central Europe, what criteria are to be followed for the management of Europe's last great 'wild' river, the Vistula, bearing in mind also the Community's responsibility for the current and future state of the environment?