

(98/C 117/170)

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3023/97**by Amedeo Amadeo (NI) to the Commission***(1 October 1997)**Subject:* Future Noise Policy (Green Paper)

The Commission's proposal to draw up a framework directive on measuring and assessing exposure to noise, set out in its green paper on future noise policy (COM(96) 540 final), is welcome; however, its announcement that it will establish the target values and measures to enforce them 'for a later stage' is disappointing.

On the basis of the principle of prevention, these target values are needed for the priority area of noise abatement and the Commission is therefore asked not to delay in defining them.

(98/C 117/171)

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3024/97**by Amedeo Amadeo (NI) to the Commission***(1 October 1997)**Subject:* Future Noise Policy (Green Paper)

Given the scale of the problem of noise pollution in the Community and the fact that noise abatement has not so far been given a high priority under European environmental policy, the plans to draw up a wide-ranging programme to tackle the problem, set out in the Commission's green paper on future noise policy (COM(96) 540 final), are very important.

The contents of the green paper are welcome in principle and the Commission is asked to lose no time in drawing up the action programme.

(98/C 117/172)

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3025/97**by Amedeo Amadeo (NI) to the Commission***(1 October 1997)**Subject:* Future Noise Policy (Green Paper)

With reference to the Commission's green paper on future noise policy (COM(96) 540 final), will it make noise abatement one of the priority areas of Community research and development and will it take steps to improve the coordination and increase the concentration of its R&D?

(98/C 117/173)

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3026/97**by Amedeo Amadeo (NI) to the Commission***(1 October 1997)**Subject:* Future Noise Policy (Green Paper)

The Economic and Social Committee accepts the Commission's proposal to use economic instruments, put forward in its green paper on future noise policy (COM(96) 540 final), but opposes the introduction of fiscal measures to 'punish' those responsible for noise pollution or provide a source of revenue for the government.

Will the Commission ensure that the use of economic instruments is not a substitute for setting limit values for noise emissions?