

(98/C 386/081)

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0958/98**by Lucio Manisco (GUE/NGL) to the Commission***(30 March 1998)**Subject:* Agricultural funding

Can the Commission say what amount of direct and indirect funding is granted to Italian farmers' organizations, specifically the Confederazione Agricoltori Italiani (Federation of Italian Farmers), the Confederazione Coltivatori Diretti (Federation of Owner-Occupiers), and the Confederazione Italiana Coltivatori (Italian Federation of Growers)?

What budget headings are used to provide the funding in question, and for what services has payment been made in the current year and the last three years?

Have the above three farmers' organizations taken part in specific projects, for instance in the field of vocational training?

Answer given by Mr Fischler on behalf of the Commission*(21 April 1998)*

Direct financing of the Italian farmers' unions:

Confederazione Agricoltori Italiani

1997 — Veneto Region 'SOS Mondo rura programme': ECU 102 500

1996 — Study trip: ECU 8 000

Confederazione Coltivatori Diretti

1997 — Seminar — Course for future managers 'Development of management skills': ECU 15 000

1996 — Training for those concerned with equal opportunities in rural areas: ECU 36 711

1996 — Study trip: ECU 8 000

1995 — Study trip: ECU 10 000

Confederazione Italiana Coltivatori: no application

These grants were made from budget item B2/514 in 1995 and 1996; this changed to B2/5122 in 1997. This heading concerns training, information and the raising of public awareness of the common agricultural policy.

(98/C 386/082)

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0959/98**by Lucio Manisco (GUE/NGL) to the Commission***(30 March 1998)**Subject:* Human rights violations in Colombia

Colombia is a country plagued by extreme criminal and political violence. There are 30 000 criminal murders a year and 4 000 political assassinations. At least one person is declared 'missing' every day. More than a million internal refugees have been forced to leave their homes in order to flee death threats.

On 3 September 1995 the Cartagena police murdered Giacomo Turra, a Union citizen, after subjecting him to protracted torture. In the continuing trial of the officers responsible for the odious crime, the evidence against the accused is being manipulated and dishonestly misrepresented to their advantage.

1. What steps have the Commission and Council taken since the affair was brought to their notice? If they have done nothing so far, why have they ignored a case that so graphically illustrates the need for justice in Colombia and not sent an observer to ascertain that the trial is being properly conducted?