

Answer given by Mrs Wallström on behalf of the Commission

(20 September 2001)

The Commission has no knowledge of the problem mentioned by the Honourable Member.

For this reason it has just sent a request to the Spanish authorities for information on the facts as stated, so as to determine the most appropriate way to implement the Community legislation applicable.

(2002/C 40 E/197)

**WRITTEN QUESTION P-2087/01
by Chris Davies (ELDR) to the Commission**

(5 July 2001)

Subject: European Commission office in occupied Cyprus

Will the Commission state whether it intends to open an office in the occupied part of Cyprus, and, if so, what will be the intended purpose of this office, where is it hoped it will be located, what budget will be allocated towards its operation, how many staff will it employ, who will manage it, and who will be this person's line-manager?

If it is the intention of the Commission to open such an office, what has been the reaction of the Government of Cyprus and of the authorities in occupied Cyprus to the proposal?

Answer given by Mr Patten on behalf of the Commission

(31 July 2001)

The Commission has a Delegation in Nicosia and has no intention of opening another representation in Cyprus.

As part of the Commission's efforts to inform the Turkish Cypriot community about the Union, the acquis and the benefits of membership, the Commission is planning to recruit a Turkish Cypriot local agent, who will be based in the Delegation in Nicosia under the management of the Head of Delegation.

The Commission is also examining with representatives of the business community, ways and means to improve the flow of information concerning the Union in the north.

The Government of the Republic of Cyprus supports these initiatives.

(2002/C 40 E/198)

**WRITTEN QUESTION E-2090/01
by Jens-Peter Bonde (EDD) to the Commission**

(13 July 2001)

Subject: The Sixth Framework Programme for Research in the EU

Why has research into diseases been scaled down under the Sixth Framework Programme for Research, and why have certain diseases been left out of the programme altogether?

Answer given by Mr Busquin on behalf of the Commission

(24 September 2001)

The Commission does not envisage that disease-related research will be scaled down under the next Framework Programme compared to the Fifth Framework Programme for Research and technological development. The proposed budget should actually increase the amount of funding available for such research.