

ORAL QUESTION H-0063/07
for Question Time at the part-session in February 2007
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure
by Diamanto Manolakou
to the Council

Subject: Violation of international law at Guantanamo

The abolition of any form of law at Guantanamo enjoys all the Pentagon's blessings. This fact is also evidenced by the Pentagon's manual on the prosecution of detainees at Guantanamo, which authorises the imprisonment, conviction and, possibly, execution of detainees on the basis of hearsay evidence or statements obtained by coercive methods of interrogation or torture prior to 30 December 2005, where a judge deems them to be reliable. According to the manual, neither will the defence lawyers of terrorist suspects have the right to reveal classified information during proceedings unless it has been reviewed beforehand by the government. The manual, which has already been sent to Congress, follows a law passed last autumn to set up military tribunals for terrorist suspects, which had earlier been overruled by the US Supreme Court.

Does the Council condemn the new Pentagon manual, which constitutes a flagrant violation of human dignity and international law? What initiatives will it take to secure the closure of the Guantanamo base?

Tabled: 30.01.2007
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