

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3161/01

by Bertel Haarder (ELDR)

to the Commission

Subject: Denmark's role in the fight against the sexual exploitation of children

1. In the light of the recent discovery in Denmark of a major international paedophile network with links to Denmark, Norway, Romania and other countries, will the Commission investigate the international child pornography ring and Denmark's role in it?
2. Does Denmark punish child sex abuse less severely than other countries, including EU Member States?
3. Denmark's criminal code makes criminal liability for child sex abuse conditional upon dual criminality. Is Denmark the only country where this is the case?
4. If the answer to the two above questions is yes, does this contribute to Denmark's position as a haven and centre for paedophiles? Are there any other contributory factors?
5. At the first World Conference on the Sexual Exploitation of Children in Stockholm in 1996, 122 countries committed themselves to drawing up a plan of action to fight child sex abuse. Can the Commission state which of the EU Member States have delivered on that commitment to date? What action will the Commission take with regard to Member States which have not done so?
6. How will the Commission ensure that EU Member States fulfil the obligations they may be placed under at the next World Conference on the Sexual Exploitation of Children, to be held in Japan in December?