

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3223/03
by Anna Karamanou (PSE)
to the Commission

Subject: Children sentenced to death in the Philippines

A recent report by Amnesty International reveals the presence in Philippine prisons of children who have been sentenced to death and are awaiting execution. However, under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which the Philippines is a signatory and Philippine national law, juvenile offenders who have committed offences whilst below the age of 18, cannot be sentenced to death or executed. Clearly, the Government of the Philippines is therefore in breach of both national and international law.

What pressure will the Commission bring to bear on the Philippine Government, so as to ensure that it complies fully, in principle and in practice, with the limits imposed by national and international law regarding penalties for child offenders?