

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0889/04
by Nelly Maes (Verts/ALE)
to the Commission

Subject: Elections in Iran

The recent elections in Iran were a travesty of democracy. Most of the independent candidates were disqualified by the religious council, demonstrating once again that it is all-powerful. Despite this intervention, the elections nonetheless went ahead. This shows that the so-called reformists in Iran have achieved nothing.

The European Commission has defended dialogue with Iran as a means of promoting human rights and democracy.

What conclusions does the Commission draw from recent events as far as dialogue with the Iranian authorities is concerned?