

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1353/04
by Camilo Nogueira Román (Verts/ALE)
to the Council

Subject: Privatisation of military forces by the US and UK: an army of 20 000 soldiers recruited by private companies is fighting in the Iraq war

What is the Council's position in practice on the existence in the Iraq war, thanks largely to the encouragement of the US and the UK, of an army of 20 000 (shortly to be 30 000) soldiers recruited by private companies?

What measures will the Council take in the face of this attack on the most basic values of democratic coexistence? Can the EU remain indifferent at a time when, in addition to the perverse exploitation of the Iraq war in the interests of large private companies, a huge paramilitary army has appeared there, in a development that is as shocking as it is shameful in the eyes of the entire world?