

WRITTEN QUESTION E-5583/06

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to the Commission

Subject: The political party PNVD

The decision by the Dutch organisation NVD (Brotherly Love, Freedom and Diversity) in June 2006, to form the political party PNVD with a view to legalising paedophilia caused outrage not only in the Netherlands but throughout the European Union. According to its manifesto, the PNVD aims to lower the age of sexual consent to 12, allow children to take part in films of a pornographic nature, and allow sexual relations between adults and children as well as legalise the possession of pornographic material in which children participate. According to opinion polls, 80% of the Dutch public wants the authorities to take immediate action, while 72% say that the existence of such a political grouping is intolerable. Nevertheless, Dutch legislation does not prevent it from operating. The court of 'HFM Hofhuis' in The Hague stresses the lack of substantive grounds for abolishing it since 'its activities do not contravene public policy'.

Having regard to Parliament's resolution on prohibitions arising from convictions for sexual offences committed against children (A6-0068/2006), Articles 24 and 37, paragraph 1, of the International Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 29 of the Treaty on European Union, with particular reference to preventing and combating trafficking in persons and offences against children, Article 24 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, Council framework Decision 2004/68/JHA and the EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child:

1. Is the European Union able to safeguard its values and policies effectively against risks such as those posed by this Dutch party?
2. How will the Commission prevent the foundation of such political parties whose programme is a clear violation of fundamental human rights and, in particular, those of children?
3. Can a political entity or social organisation send out messages and produce arguments which are in flagrant violation of fundamental human rights and introduce them into a system based on democratic institutions?