

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1038/09
by Jules Maaten (ALDE)
to the Council

Subject: Blocking of Internet sites by Iran

1. Is the Council aware of the recent renewed large-scale blocking by the Iranian government of news and other websites, including the Persian-language sites of the BBC, VOA and Radio Farda, and the sites of Deutsche Welle and Radio France Internationale?
2. Does the Council plan to do anything about this, and if so, what?
3. Does the Council consider that the European Union should take steps to prevent the further exclusion from the Internet, and consequent isolation, of citizens in authoritarian states such as Iran?