

ORAL QUESTION H-0497/99  
for Question Time at the part-session in October I 1999  
pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure  
by Pierre Schori  
to the Council

Subject: Cultural cleansing' by the Front National

In the town of Orange in the south of France the Front National has conducted a 'cultural cleansing' (épuration culturelle) operation in the municipal library by banning what it regards as impure literature. For fear of knowledge of both the past and the future, books on subjects such as Ancient Egypt, and the EU on the brink of the millennium have been removed.

This is an attack on the freedom of expression and the public's unrestricted right to culture unparalleled in the EU or anywhere else in the democratic world.

What action does the Presidency intend to take against this form of cultural cleansing and to strengthen the democratic and informational role of libraries?

Tabled: 22.09.1999  
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