ORAL QUESTION H-0396/01 for Question Time at the part-session in May 2001 pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure by Manuel Pérez Álvarez to the Council

Subject: The vessel Etireno

Over the last few days the media have alarmed us with reports (always qualified by the adverb 'allegedly') concerning the vessel which is 'alleged' to have (or to have had) 250 children on board.

The theories which have been put forward are spine-chilling. The Etireno, which has been described as 'the vessel of shame', has appeared in, and disappeared from, seas, countries and the media.

What action has the Council taken (or is it taking) in order to clarify the facts of the matter, to protect the children concerned and to prevent such situations from arising anywhere in the world?

Tabled: 24.04.2001 es