

ORAL QUESTION H-0207/03

for Question Time at the part-session in April 2003  
pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure  
by Efstratios Korakas  
to the Council

Subject:           Flagrant and provocative violation by the USA of the fundamental rights of detainees

Six hundred people suspected of involvement in the al Q'aida terrorist networks have been held without trial at the US base of Guantanamo since the end of 2001. A US Court of Appeal ruled on 12 March 2003 that the 'suspected terrorists' could not invoke any of the rights enshrined in American legislation as they are considered to be aliens who are not on US territory. The Court also ruled that 'they cannot seek release based on violations of the Constitution or other treaties; the courts are not open to them.'

What international initiatives does the Council intend to take and does it intend to raise this matter in the context of the Euro-Atlantic dialogue with a view to stopping the USA's flagrant and provocative violation of the detainees' fundamental rights, which has been condemned by humanitarian and international organisations and gives the USA licence to imprison foreigners extrajudicially without bringing charges and without access to justice on the pretext of fighting terrorism?

Tabled: 27.03.2003  
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