

ORAL QUESTION H-0401/03  
for Question Time at the part-session in July 2003  
pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure  
by Ioannis Patakis  
to the Council

Subject: Decision by the USA on a new generation of nuclear weapons

The US Senate recently voted to repeal the Spratt-Furse Amendment prohibiting any research and development of low-yield nuclear weapons, and to approve a budget for such research. The repeal of the amendment paves the way for research into a new generation of nuclear weapons and a new international arms race, which is particularly dangerous for the future of mankind.

What is the Council's position on this new decision by the USA, which not only continues to refuse to sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty but is pressing ahead with the development of new nuclear weapons and 'combat systems of the future'? What initiatives will the Council take to persuade the USA to respect international law and international legality which that country is violating and sabotaging?

Tabled: 18.06.2003  
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