ORAL QUESTION H-0571/03 for Question Time at the part-session in October 2003 pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure by Efstratios Korakas to the Council

Subject: Immediate measures to revoke the decision to 'remove' Yasser Arafat

Israel's provocative decision to expel Yasser Arafat, the Chairman of the Palestinian Authority, is the signal for another bloodbath. It will exacerbate the situation created by Israel's continued occupation of territory. The repeated murderous military operations by the Israeli army, its intimidating presence on Palestinian territory and the arbitrary arrests together with the crude and crushing conditions in which people are held in detention, the denial of the existence of a Palestinian state and the continuous violation of a people's right to self-determination have created an explosive situation in the Middle East and a general climate of instability and insecurity.

What initiatives and action will the Council take to ensure that the decision to expel Chairman Arafat, which is jeopardising peace in the region, is revoked, that Israel alters its intransigent stance, that it withdraws its troops and stops its murderous attacks, and recognises the existence of an independent Palestinian State as the only solution to the problem in the Middle East?

Tabled: 24.09.2003

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