ORAL QUESTION H-0168/04 for Question Time at the part-session in April 2004 pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure by Helle Thorning-Schmidt to the Commission

Subject: Fights against paedophile networks in Europe

The Danish Paedophile Association is allowed to organise itself and to operate an international website on paedophilia in Denmark under the Danish Constitution and the right to form associations for any lawful purposes. It is very unfortunate and disturbing that an organisation of this kind can operate in an EU country without strict control. However, Denmark is not the only country where paedophiles are organised, and a number of countries seem to have similar problems controlling paedophiles and their organisations.

In the light of the Commission's work towards combating the sexual exploitation of children and child pornography, has the Commission planned any actions towards controlling these organisations and their websites, for instance by drafting an action plan? Has the Commission taken any initiatives in order to monitor these websites? Has any action been taken in order to encourage the Member States to cooperate on this issue and to compare best practices in terms of controlling these associations and their websites?

Tabled: 15.03.2004

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