

ORAL QUESTION H-0011/09  
for Question Time at the part-session in February 2009  
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure  
by Tadeusz Zwiefka  
to the Commission

Subject: Broadcast of outlawed TV station al-Manar

Recently, Germany banned the operations of al-Manar TV across Germany. The ban order makes it illegal for anyone to cooperate with al-Manar TV. This follows broadcasting bans on al-Manar TV in France, Spain and the Netherlands because of al-Manar TV's violation of European audiovisual laws.

According to the ban order, issued on 11 November by the German Federal Minister of the Interior, the 'purpose and activity of al-Manar TV is to support, advocate and call for the use of violence as a means to achieving political and religious aims.' The ban order also describes al-Manar TV as disseminating 'calls for 'martyrdom' through suicide bombings' and lists al-Manar TV's use of verses in the Quran to justify and promote violence.

Did the Commission raised the broadcasting of al-Manar TV into Europe via Nilesat during the EU-Egypt Association Committee meeting on 16 December 2008? If not, can the Commission explain why not?

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