ORAL QUESTION H-0108/09 for Question Time at the part-session in March I 2009 pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure by Konstantinos Droutsas to the Council

Subject: Appeal for the immediate release of five Cuban patriots held in the USA

Ten years since they were arrested, five Cuban patriots - Gerardo Hernández, Antonio Guerrero, Ramón Labañino, Fernando González and René González - continue to be imprisoned in the USA on trumped up charges and in violation of the basic rules of law. They are being held in appalling conditions and even their relatives are prohibited from visiting them.

A new international initiative is currently under way to secure their immediate release. An appeal has so far been signed by more than 500 distinguished intellectuals and artists from all over the world.

Does the Council condemn the continued illegal imprisonment of the five Cubans?

What is its position on the appeals of national parliaments, national and international mass organisations and eminent individuals for the immediate release of the five imprisoned Cuban patriots?

Tabled: 23.02.2009

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