

As the Honourable Member of Parliament may be aware, Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents⁽¹⁾ provides that sensitive documents as defined in Article 9(1) of the Regulation shall be subject to special treatment in accordance with that Article. As already pointed out in its reply his Written Question E-2846/00 of 11 September 2000, the Council will review its Decision 93/731/EC of 20 December 1993 on public access to documents, as last amended by Decision 2000/527/EC, in the light of the new rules provided for in the said Regulation.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43.

(2002/C 81 E/037)

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1477/01

by Rainer Wieland (PPE-DE) to the Council

(21 May 2001)

Subject: Racism in the Netherlands

1. Is the Council aware that 'De Buddy's' a Dutch church choir which is as well known in the Netherlands as the Vienna's Boys' Choir in German-speaking countries, have recently produced a CD entitled 'Do not buy from Austrians'?
2. Is the Council aware of the historic significance of this title in the light of the last hundred years of German history?
3. Does the Council know whether the Dutch Government is taking any action against this and other xenophobic manifestations?

Reply

(26 November 2001)

The Council is very active in combating racism, as borne out by the establishment of the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia and by the recent adoption, under the new Article 13 of the Treaty, of a Directive implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin.

The Council is not aware of the specific case referred to by the Honourable Member and would in any event be unable to comment on such matters, which come within the purview of the Member States.

(2002/C 81 E/038)

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1487/01

by Jean-Claude Martinez (TDI) to the Council

(21 May 2001)

Subject: Fraud involving animal meal

In order to combat BSE or mad cow disease, France imposed a ban on animal meal intended for cattle in July 1990 and, in July 1996, stepped up this measure by excluding 'specified risk material' (SRM) such as the brain, the spleen or the spinal cord.

However, a case has recently come to light revealing the manufacture and fraudulent trade of several thousand tonnes of animal meal intended for cattle which appears to have continued after 1996.

Given the gravity of the situation and the public health risk involved, what steps will the Council take?

In particular, does it intend to strengthen cooperation between animal health and anti-fraud inspectorates?