Parliamentary Assembly
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Collective Complaint 17/2003 under the Revised Social Charter against Greece

Written question No 494 to the Committee of Ministers
presented by Mrs Bargholtz

In a decision first reported to the Committee of Ministers in January 2005 and made public in May 2005, the European Committee of Social Rights concluded, in relation to Collective Complaint no. 17/2003 against Greece, that there was a violation of Article 17 of the Revised Charter.

The Committee noted that its case-law is to the effect that the prohibition of all forms of violence must have a legislative basis. The prohibition must cover all forms of violence regardless of where it occurs or of the identity of the alleged perpetrator. Furthermore the sanctions available must be adequate, dissuasive and proportionate.

The Committee concluded that Greek legislation did not effectively prohibit all corporal punishment within the home, nor in secondary schools or in other institutions and forms of care for children.

Mrs Bargholtz

To ask the Committee of Ministers,

What action is the Committee of Ministers taking to ensure that children in Greece are effectively protected from all corporal punishment in the home, in secondary schools and in other institutions and forms of care for children, as required by the Revised Social Charter?

In view of the fact that this decision concerns the basic protection of the rights of children, whom the human rights mechanisms of the Council of Europe have recognized as particularly vulnerable, what action does the Committee of Ministers propose to take to expedite action?

Signed [1]*:*

BARGHOLTZ, Helena, Sweden, ALDE

[1] SOC: Socialist Group
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EDG: European Democratic Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left
NR: not registered in a group