

In Search of Justice

European Committee for De-listing the PMOI



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EU COUNCIL MAKING A FARCE OF COMMUNITY LAW

In a 20-page ruling released this morning, the Court of First Instance of the European Communities annulled the European Union Council of Ministers' decision to maintain the People's Mojahedin Organisation of Iran (PMOI-MEK) on the EU terrorist list.

Commenting on the decision, Scottish Tory MEP Struan Stevenson, a founding member and spokesman of the European Committee for De-listing PMOI (ISJ) said:

"This latest court ruling, which comes after an earlier ruling by the EU court in December 2006, in addition to the High Court and Court of Appeal verdicts in the UK, once again confirms that the courts believe the terrorist tag against the PMOI is unjust. Today's ruling demonstrates that the blacklisting of the PMOI was from the outset devoid of any legitimacy and legal basis and was simply used by some Member State governments who to appease the religious fascists ruling Iran and to make concessions to that regime.

"However, anticipating the outcome of this case, the mullahs in Tehran persuaded the French, who hold the current rotating presidency of the EU, to update the terror list last July, placing the PMOI on a new list. This appallingly unjust decision was subsequently upheld by the Council of Ministers and is now the subject of a fresh legal hearing before the European Court of First Instance. It seems that every time the PMOI go to court, they win their case and every time they win their case, the Council of Ministers simply invents a new reason to blacklist them again. The whole process is a farce and clearly shows that the Council of Ministers is attempting to place itself above the EU's highest courts. Their actions seriously undermine the rule of law in the European Community and play into the hands of the oppressive tyrants in Tehran.

"The court's verdict today acknowledges the right of the PMOI to resist the dictatorship which is devastating their homeland. The imposition of the terrorist label is tantamount to participation in suppression. The Council of Ministers should be forced to apologise to the PMOI and to the Iranian people."

Struan Stevenson MEP
Vice President of EPP-ED, European Parliament
Spokesman for ISJ
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