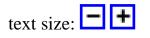
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ALLISTER REBUKES PRESIDENT POTTERING OVER MAZE SHRINE

04 December 2008

In the first sitting of the European Parliament since its President visited Northern Ireland, Traditional Unionist MEP Jim Allister rebuked President Pottering over his support in Belfast for the Maze Shrine project.

Speaking in a debate Mr Allister told the Parliament:-

"Last Monday on his visit to Belfast, the President enthused about the EU supporting what was covertly called a "Conflict Transformation Centre" at the site of the former Maze Prison, where some of the most vile and vicious terrorists were properly incarcerated. Also, where 10 IRA convicted terrorists infamously suicided through hunger strike.

"What the President maybe did not appreciate is that because of this history Irish republicans, who love to wallow in self-pity, are determined to perfect their own transformation on any such centre and turn it into a shrine for some of the most evil terrorists known to this generation. Hence, the folly of the EU falling into the trap of funding such an obscenity and the foolishness of the President lending his office to any such venture."

EU Parliament

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