

# EU court just on Iran

IT IS wrong to suggest that the European Court of Justice is undermining the European Union's sanctions against Iran, or that the court does not take national security or nuclear proliferation seriously ("Case by case, EU judges help Iran go nuclear", Think Tank, last week).

The court has repeatedly underlined the importance of the EU foreign policy aim of targeting sanctions at the people and companies that are actually responsible for nuclear proliferation and acts of

terrorism. What the court has not tolerated is the European Council and European Commission imposing highly restrictive measures on individuals and companies on the basis of vague and unsupported allegations, without giving them the case against them or any opportunity to be heard.

The court is just upholding the basic values of the EU — democracy, fundamental rights and the rule of law — which is crucial when those values are under attack.

**Maya Lester**, Brick Court Chambers, **Michael O'Kane**, Head of Business Crime, Peters & Peters, **Guy Martin**, Head of International Law, Carter-Ruck, **Piet Eeckhout**, Professor of European Law, University College London