

**Question for written answer E-008321/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE)

Subject: Looted art in Europe

The subject of the restitution of cultural property and wartime art looting in 20th-century Europe is attracting attention in public debate. However, the field remains compartmentalised along institutional, judicial and national boundaries. Looted cultural goods claims create ownership disputes which are subject to divergent legal standards depending on the laws of each Member State.

1. In 2003 a European Parliament report on 'a legal framework for free movement within the internal market of goods whose ownership is likely to be contested' (2002/2114(INI)), drawn up by the Committee on Legal Affairs and the Internal Market, proposed the development of transparent remedial structures consistent with applicable principles of European and international law. What was the Commission's response to this report?
2. Today there is an urgent need for action to be taken to establish a consistent and applicable legal framework. What measures does the Commission intend to employ in order to develop such a framework?