

**Question for written answer E-007217/2015/rev.1  
to the Commission  
Rule 130  
Josep-Maria Terricabras (Verts/ALE)**

Subject:      Seventieth anniversary of the liberation of Mauthausen

On 9, 10 and 11 May 2015 events will be held at the Mauthausen extermination camp to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the liberation of the Austrian camp by its inmates. Some 7 347 Spanish and Catalan Republicans were held and enslaved at the camp.

The Republican prisoners, who had fled brutal repression under Franco's fascist regime, had for the most part been captured by the German occupying forces in France. In all the years of democracy that have passed since then, successive Spanish governments have failed to hold to account those involved in the Franco regime who were complicit in this genocide, and failed to call for recognition and moral damages for those who were deported. The fact that there were Republican deportees in Nazi camps has always been considered to be separate from Spain's history, resulting in a historical and institutional wall of silence that has no place in a democracy.

1. Does the Commission consider it important that Member States safeguard the memory of the atrocity of the Holocaust?
2. What action is the Commission taking to honour the memory of those who died as a result of fascism and authoritarian ideology in Europe?