Question for written answer E-012502/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Deaths of Spanish aid workers in the Great Lakes region

Following a national and international judicial investigation which lasted more than three years, Spain's Central Investigating Magistrates' Court No 4 issued an indictment against 40 senior officers in the Rwandan Patriotic Army citing the reasonable suspicion that they committed crimes between 1 October 1990 and 1 July 2002 in both Rwanda and Democratic Republic of Congo. In 2008 Judge Andreu accused Emmanuel Karenzi Karake and 39 other senior Rwandan military officers of genocide, crimes against humanity and terrorism and named Karake as the person presumed responsible for the murder of nine Spanish nationals working in refugee camps.

At the behest of the Spanish courts, a European arrest warrant was issued against Karake and he was detained by the UK authorities in June 2015. Spain has since requested his extradition.

Is the Commission aware of this case? Does it see any way of ensuring that the European arrest warrant is acted on and that Karake is brought to justice in Spain, or will the murderers of the Spanish aid workers continue to go unpunished?

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