

**Question for written answer E-003930/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

María Teresa Giménez Barbat (ALDE)

Subject: Protocols for the identification of victims of terrorism

During the Islamist terror attack on London Bridge on 3 June 2017, Spanish citizen Ignacio Echevarria was murdered as he went to the aid of a woman who was being set upon by the terrorists. It took the British authorities more than four days to identify Ignacio, unnecessarily causing even more suffering for his relatives and friends, who were desperately trying to find out what had happened to him. It took a whole week after the attack to carry out an autopsy and repatriate the body.

Directive (EU) No 2017/541 on combating terrorism, which was adopted in March 2017, calls on Member States, in Article 24(4), to 'ensure that mechanisms or protocols are in place' that 'envisage the coordination of relevant authorities, agencies and bodies to be able to provide a comprehensive response to the needs of victims and their family members immediately after a terrorist attack [...], including adequate means facilitating the identification of and communication to victims and their families'.

Is the Commission planning to draw up some kind of best practice guide for the transposition of Directive (EU) No 2017/541, so that harmonised protocols can be established with regard to victims' rights in the EU, and to ensure that what happened in the case of Ignacio Echevarria cannot happen again?