Question for written answer E-001802/2018
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Police brutality against Roma

Parliament’s report on fundamental rights aspects in Roma integration in the EU\(^1\) calls on Member States to secure the rights of Roma to equal access to justice and condemns Member States for slowing down procedures to ensure justice for the victims of hate crimes, especially those perpetrated by police officers, and for providing little protection or investigation in cases of crimes reported by Roma.

In 2013, there was a police raid on the Roma settlement Budulovska Moldava nad Bodvou, Slovakia, during which more than 60 officers assaulted around 30 Roma. After the violence, 15 Roma men were taken to the police station. Some were severely ill-treated during their detention. Two years later, the inspection service of the Ministry of Interior terminated criminal proceedings in all regards. In 2016, the Prešov regional prosecutor rejected a complaint filed by the victims against the inspection service’s decision. The victims then filed a complaint against that decision to the Constitutional Court. In 2017, the Constitutional Court rejected the complaint of violence committed by the police.

The ‘Moldava case’ has become a symbol of police brutality. Similar cases are reported by NGOs in many other Member States.

How is the Commission ensuring that Member States comply with the provisions of Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA\(^2\) on combatting racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law?

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\(^1\) P8_TA(2017)0413.