

**Question for written answer E-002120/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
John Stuart Agnew (ENF)

Subject: Presumption of innocence

The presumption of innocence and the right to a fair trial are enshrined in Directive (EU) 2016/343 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016, in Articles 47 and 48 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, and in other accepted legal doctrine.

The presumption of innocence would be deemed to have been violated if public statements made by public authorities or judicial decisions refer to a suspect or an accused person as being guilty when that person has not been proved guilty according to law. In particular, this means that the media cannot mention guilt in any form unless it has been proved. Unfortunately this humanitarian principle is not followed by some EU Member States.

Given that such information should be in the public domain, will the Commission 'name and shame' these countries?