Question for written answer E-002343/2017 to the Commission Rule 130 Kazimierz Michał Ujazdowski (ECR)

Subject: Respect for truth and personality rights of former concentration camp inmates

Respecting the truth about crimes committed by Nazi Germany in concentration and extermination camps constitutes a commitment made by the international community and is of universal value. This includes the truth about the Holocaust, which sought to annihilate the Jewish people, and about the Poles, Russians, Roma and many other nationalities who were victims of these crimes. Therefore, the personality rights of concentration camp inmates who are still alive should be treated with particular sensitivity, yet their rights are being breached by defamatory statements in the media. A recent judgment handed down by a Polish court in the case of Karol Tendera v. ZDF requires the German public-service television broadcaster to apologise to a former inmate at the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp for using the term 'Polish death camp'.

The problem is growing. Will the Commission ensure that EU educational and cultural programmes pay greater attention to respect for the truth about these crimes and to protecting the personality rights of victims?

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