

**Question for written answer E-001048/2018**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Ivica Tolić (PPE)**

Subject: Addressing the issue of people who disappeared during the Croatian War of Independence

The Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić made an official visit to Croatia on 12 and 13 February 2018. He used the occasion to deliver information on three Croatian citizens who disappeared during the Croatian War of Independence. According to data published in September 2017, Croatia is still searching for 1 952 people.

The Serbian Prime Minister's manoeuvre is yet another indicator that Serbia actually has information at its disposal concerning people who disappeared, but is refusing to make it available, which is contrary not only to the law, but also to humanitarian principles. Such conduct on the part of the Serbian authorities runs counter to Article 6 of the 1996 Agreement on the Normalisation of Relations between the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which obliges the parties to accelerate, without delay, the process of addressing the issue of disappeared persons and exchanging all available information on them. Moreover, given Serbia's status as a candidate for membership of the European Union, it should make the information available as soon as possible and in the spirit of fulfilling Chapters 23 and 24, by adopting the European values of humanity and acting in good faith.

Does the Commission intend to take steps to encourage Serbia to clarify the issue of disappeared persons in order to ensure that the *acquis communautaire* are respected in this candidate for EU membership?