

**Question for written answer E-004473/2018  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Xabier Benito Ziluaga (GUE/NGL), Bodil Valero (Verts/ALE), Izaskun Bilbao Barandica (ALDE)  
and Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz (ALDE)**

Subject: Missing Basque citizen found dead in Sweden: identification, cause of death and dealings with the family

On 22 September 2005, a body was washed ashore on the River Lidingö in Sweden; a photocopy of a Spanish identity document was found on the body. It was on the basis of that evidence alone that the Swedish authorities and the Spanish Embassy informed the deceased's family, who were not allowed to see or identify the body.

In response to a request from the family, the mortal remains were subsequently transported to London without the special laissez-passer generally issued in such cases. According to the British authorities, a number of organs, including the heart, were missing and identification of the body was not possible. Nevertheless, the body was buried under the name Miguel Ángel Martínez Santamaría.

The family lodged a complaint alleging trafficking in organs (No 0201-K27741, dated 3 January 2014). To this day, the Swedish authorities have not contacted the family or asked them to make a statement. The complaint was made by telephone in English and the written complaint was submitted in Swedish.

Does the Commission take the view that there has, in this connection, been a breach of Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 April 2011 on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims, given that the family was not given immediate access to legal counselling?