

Question for written answer E-002554/2019
to the Commission
Rule 138
Susanna Ceccardi (ID)

Subject: Establishment by the Commission of a Dante Day

Cultural institutions, bodies and associations are organising an ever-increasing number of events, far and wide, with the aim of commemorating the legacy of artists whose works, in life, have unquestionably contributed to the enrichment of the historical, artistic or literary heritage of humanity.

For example, on 16 June each year several cities, from Dublin to Trieste, pay tribute to the famous writer James Joyce through a variety of cultural activities, such as public readings; and on 23 April, on World Book and Copyright Day, many countries commemorate authors of the calibre of Miguel de Cervantes and William Shakespeare, highlighting the contribution they have made to the social and cultural progress of humanity.

With a view to the 700th anniversary of his death, i.e. in 2021, over the past few months many have been calling for a day on which to remember the great Florentine poet Dante Alighieri.

Can the Commission therefore say:

- 1) what measures it intends to take to commemorate Dante Alighieri's major contribution to international cultural heritage;
- 2) whether, in view of Dante's historical importance, it would agree to establish a Day in his honour?