Question for written answer E-004189/2019 to the Commission

Rule 138

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Subject: EU funds for the renovation of the ship Galeb

The 'Brod Mira Galeb', Marshal Tito's maritime residence from 1953 to 1979, is to be converted – with the support of EU funding obtained by Croatia as part of the project relating to the enhancement, for tourism purposes, of the monuments representing the industrial heritage of Fiume (Rijeka) – into a multimedia museum.

The aim is to make the ship a cultural and tourist attraction in the city of Fiume/Rijeka, thanks to a grant of EUR 9 259 000.

While EU funding should be granted with the aim of promoting a heritage the value of which has been universally recognised, and never in order to fuel ideological sectarianism, can the Commission answer the following questions:

Does it not agree that the funding granted might be liable to be perceived as a tribute to Marshal Tito, who was guilty of mass killings and the promotion of real ethnic cleansing, and thus as an attempt to promote an interpretation of history that sees Communism as a period of questionable brutality?

Does it not agree that such support from the European Union runs counter to the European Parliament's statement in its resolution of 19 September 2019 on the importance of European remembrance for the future of Europe?