Question for written answer E-004304/2019 to the Commission Rule 138 Ruža Tomašić (ECR)

Subject: Surrender procedure between Member States and Norway

It is estimated that searches are still ongoing for 1 892 persons who disappeared during the war in Croatia. Unfortunately, useful information on the locations of missing persons, that is, graves and mass graves, is very difficult to obtain, since the people who possess such information do not want to share it with the competent authorities or have fled Croatia. An example of this is Cvijetin Jović, a Croatian citizen of Serbian nationality, who, according to available information, organised the removal of the bodies of the killed and missing at Ovčara. He fled to Norway in 1998 and has since been out of the reach of Croatian judicial authorities. Thanks to various websites, this person's address is now publicly available, and therefore his possible surrender to the Croatian authorities, with the good will of the interested states, is conditional solely on the existence of a legal basis for it.

Could the Commission therefore say what legal act regulates the surrender procedure between EU Member States and Norway today?

In the case of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Iceland and the Kingdom of Norway on the surrender procedure, do you consider that the relocation of a missing person's body to conceal a war crime is considered a 'participation in a criminal organisation' or a 'crime falling under the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court', i.e. crimes giving rise to surrender without double-checking on the basis of an arrest warrant?