Question for written answer E-001491/2023 to the Commission Rule 138 Jordi Cañas (Renew)

Subject: The Spanish Government's failure to prosecute hate crimes

In question E-003800/2022/rev.1¹, I informed the Commission of the antisemitic comments made on Catalan public television last October and I asked it what action it would take to stop the spread of speeches trivialising Nazism.

The answer to this question was emphatic. Holocaust denial and trivialisation is an expression of antisemitism and is considered a hate crime under the 2008 Framework Decision. The answer also states that, while 'the investigation and prosecution of individual cases of alleged hate speech remains a competence of national authorities', the Commission 'monitors the correct implementation of the Framework Decision and the Audiovisual Media Services Directive' and opens 'infringement procedures' when needed.

It is clear in this case that hate crimes are being committed but the Member State is not applying the relevant EU laws to prevent and condemn them.

In view of this situation:

1. Will the Commission call on the Spanish Government to apply the EU legislation and investigate and prosecute this hate crime?

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¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2022-003800_EN.html.