

**Question for written answer E-001950/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Identification of bodies from the Mediterranean

In recent years, the Mediterranean has carried thousands of migrants' bodies onto European beaches, and more than half of those bodies have never been identified.

Given that it is not possible to identify the majority of people who die while crossing the Mediterranean, in its resolution adopted on 19 May 2021 on the protection of human rights and the EU's external policy on migration, Parliament called for 'a coordinated European approach in order to ensure prompt and effective identification processes, and to establish a database of those who died on their way to the EU as well of their belongings and personal items' and a parallel database containing data about missing people provided by those looking for them.

From a legal and administrative perspective, it is also important for the living that victims are identified.

In the light of the above:

1. Does the Commission not think that the failure to identify victims could hinder the principle of family reunification and block any possibility that justice may be obtained for any crimes committed against individual migrants?
2. Does it not agree that failing to work to identify the dead violates the right to good mental health of those looking for them?
3. Will it follow up on Parliament's request by presenting a legislative proposal to harmonise the victim identification procedure?

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