

**Question for written answer P-013229/2013/rev.1
to the Commission
Rule 117
Alexander Mirsky (S&D)**

Subject: Offensive statements

On 19 November 2013 the Latvian Minister of Defence, Artis Pabriks, proposed renaming the monument to the soldiers of the anti-Hitler coalition. The new name would be 'Sovyatnik', which, translated into English, means 'monument to the Soviet system' – whereas in reality the monument is dedicated to the liberation of Riga from Nazism.

Given that there is a general tendency towards glorification of Nazism in Latvia, will the Commission ensure that Latvia has correctly implemented Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia?