Question for written answer P-003709/2017 to the Commission Rule 130 Marek Jurek (ECR)

Subject: Euthanasia in the Netherlands

Media sources, including the Daily Telegraph, have recently been reporting on a case in which an elderly woman was killed in a Dutch clinic after being euthanised against her will, even fighting back before she died. The Dutch Regional Review Committee has stated that the doctor responsible for this act, which was acknowledged to have 'crossed the line' for euthanasia procedures, would not be punished as she had acted in 'good faith'. This precedent – just like euthanasia itself, which is an attack on the natural and inalienable right to life – illustrates the direction in which the practice of Dutch euthanasia laws is headed. This is borne out by the discussion on the legal expansion of the grounds for euthanasia, which is clearly trending towards 'involuntary euthanasia'. Both this tragic case and the direction of the ongoing debate show that the legislation on euthanasia has created an unstoppable momentum.

With this in mind:

- 1. What is the Commission's position on this issue?
- 2. Has the Commission previously stated this position publicly?
- 3. Does the Commission feel that the Dutch legislation on euthanasia is consistent with Article 2 and Article 3(1) and (2)(a) of the Charter of Fundamental Rights?

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