

**Priority question for written answer P-001163/2023/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Predrag Fred Matić (S&D)

Subject: Prosecution of sexual violence in Russo-Ukrainian War

In May 2022, Parliament adopted a resolution¹ in which it called for the EU institutions and the Member States to take all the necessary action in international proceedings and courts to support the prosecution of the Russian and Belarusian regimes for war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide and aggression. It also expressed its full support for the investigation by the International Criminal Court (ICC) Prosecutor² and the work of the Commission of Inquiry of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights³, as well as independent civil society organisations and Ukrainian authorities working to collect evidence.

On 17 March 2023, the ICC issued a warrant of arrest for Vladimir Putin for the unlawful deportation and transfer of population (children) from occupied areas of Ukraine to the Russian Federation. While it is extremely important to prosecute the aforementioned crimes, crimes against women are particularly prevalent during wartime, usually in the form of sexual violence, and these must not be overlooked.

What action has the Commission taken to emphasise the need to collect and secure evidence of sexual violence in the Russo-Ukrainian War, as well as to highlight the enormous importance of prosecuting such crimes?

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¹ European Parliament resolution of 19 May 2022 on the fight against impunity for war crimes in Ukraine. OJ C 479, 16.12.2022, p. 68.

² <https://www.icc-cpi.int/news/statement-icc-prosecutor-karim-aa-khan-qc-situation-ukraine-receipt-referrals-39-states>.

³ <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/iicihr-ukraine/index>.