

**Priority question for written answer P-002797/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Review of the Council Framework Decision of 13 June 2002 on the European Arrest Warrant (EAW)

When VOX arrived at the European Parliament, we proposed to urgently initiate the review of the European Arrest Warrant (EAW) system in order to guarantee the judicial sovereignty of the Member States and to end impunity for fugitives within the Union. In January 2021, the resolution on the implementation of the European Arrest Warrant¹ was adopted, which urged the Commission to take the necessary steps to review the Framework Decision.

1. Two and a half years later, the Commission is refusing to review the EAW in order to put an end to a situation that only benefits fugitive criminals. Will the Commission take steps to review the EAW before the end of the current political term, as requested by this Parliament?
2. In 2021, 14 789 European Arrest Warrants were issued, but only 5 144 people were extradited². How does the Commission view the fact that 60% of the warrants issued were not executed?
3. In Spain, the country's governance is in the hands of a fugitive who fled from justice in a car boot³. In Belgium, ETA member Natividad Jáuregui lived in the country for 17 years without being tried for terrorist offences⁴. Does the Commission agree that this apathy is seriously jeopardising the rule of law?

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¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2021-0006_EN.html

² 'Replies to questionnaire on quantitative information on the practical operation of the European Arrest Warrant': https://commission.europa.eu/publications/replies-questionnaire-quantitative-information-practical-operation-european-arrest-warrant_en

³ 'How Puigdemont managed to flee in a boot – the former President's fall from grace since 1 October': https://www.abc.es/espana/abci-coches-contradignidad-201712070238_noticia.html

⁴ 'Belgium will hand over ETA member Natividad Jáuregui after almost 20 years in the country': <https://www.elmundo.es/espana/2020/11/17/5fb40542fdddfeb0a8b45c5.html>