

**Question for written answer E-014707/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Paying of pensions to Blue Division volunteers

In response to a parliamentary question from the Die Linke party, the German Government has revealed that it is still paying pensions to dozens of Spanish volunteers from the Blue Division, which was an infantry unit forming part of the army of Nazi Germany.

It is incomprehensible and unacceptable for Germany to continue paying pensions to Nazi volunteers, 70 years after the end of the Second World War, whilst so many of the victims of fascist totalitarianism have still not received any reparations. What is most serious, however, is that the German Government has said it will not stop these payments.

The Commission has made a number of appeals stressing the importance of remembering the crimes committed by totalitarian regimes and has called upon the Member States to introduce provisions aimed at preserving the historical memory of these crimes in Council Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA.

1. Was the Commission aware of this information?
2. Does the Commission feel that paying pensions to ex-soldiers who fought for Nazi forces is consistent with the European Union's fundamental values, and particularly with the provisions of Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union?
3. Will it be taking any action against the above?