

Question for written answer E-003752/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Sergio Berlato (ECR)

Subject: Remembrance of those who died at Cima Cady

Operation Avalanche (Unternehmen Lawine) or the Tonale Offensive was a First World War military operation carried out by Austria-Hungary on 13 June 1918. Over a hundred young combatants died, and 82 bodies of Austro-Hungarian soldiers are buried in a mass grave on the Tonale Pass in Lombardy, Italy, something that could be seen as an insult to their memory, which should instead be rediscovered and passed on. Their bodies need to be recovered, both out of respect and to protect them from recent and frequent thefts by cowardly criminals.

With a view to supporting historical memory programmes raising awareness of past tragedies so as to build a European historical memory¹:

1. Does the Commission intend to make representations to the countries in question to urge them to do their urgent and lawful duty to recover these Austro-Hungarian soldiers' bodies?
2. Can the Commission identify specific funds to establish museums of remembrance as a tribute to those who died in defence of their country?
3. Does the Commission consider recovering soldiers' bodies to preserve their memory for future generations to be in line with the aforementioned resolution?

Submitted: 26.9.2025

¹ European historical consciousness – European Parliament resolution of 17 January 2024 on European historical consciousness <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/C/2024/5721/oj>.