

**Question for written answer E-004773/2025  
to the Commission**  
Rule 144  
**Arkadiusz Mularczyk (ECR)**

**Subject:** Reparative justice for former colonies in Africa and the return of African cultural artefacts to their countries of origin

Similarly to several joint declarations by the African Union (AU) and the European Union, including from the 2025 AU-EU Summit, the 2007 joint Africa-EU strategy calls for ‘the exchange of information between EU and African countries on existing African cultural goods in the EU and Africa’. It further states: ‘Africa and the EU will continue to cooperate in the fight against the illicit trade in cultural goods, and facilitate and support the return of illegally acquired cultural goods to their countries of origin’.

Parliament’s resolution of 26 March 2019 on fundamental rights of people of African descent in Europe clearly highlights the need for reparative justice and the restitution of African artefacts.

The resolution recalls that ‘some Member States have taken steps toward meaningful and effective redress for past injustices and crimes against humanity – bearing in mind their lasting impacts in the present’. It also calls for ‘the EU institutions and the remainder of the Member States to follow this example, which may include some form of reparations such as offering public apologies and the restitution of stolen artefacts to their countries of origin’.

1. What is the Commission’s position on the above?
2. Has the Commission taken any steps to support the above?

Submitted: 2.12.2025