

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004595/25
to the Commission
Arkadiusz Mularczyk (ECR)
(18 November 2025)**

Subject: Commission's position on responsibility for causing the Second World War

The European Union, including the Commission, repeatedly refers to the outbreak of World War II in documents, educational materials and remembrance activities.

1. In numerous EU-funded communications, publications and cultural and educational projects on the Second World War, the Commission and other EU institutions use generic terms such as 'Nazi crimes' or 'totalitarian regimes', without explicitly mentioning the German State's responsibility for instigating and waging the Second World War. In the Commission's view, does such wording fully reflect historical truth, especially when it comes to clearly distinguishing between perpetrators and victims of war, including occupied states such as Poland?

2. What specific mechanisms does the Commission use to ensure that EU-funded programmes, projects, exhibitions, audiovisual productions and educational initiatives related to the Second World War do not lead to state responsibility for acts of aggression being relativised or erased, and to ensure that established historical facts about the conflict's perpetrators and victims are clearly and unequivocally reflected?

Submitted: 18.11.2025

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(30 June 2026)**

The Commission considers it essential that remembrance activities relating to the Second World War and the Holocaust accurately reflect established historical facts and preserve the memory of the victims.

Through programmes such as the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values ⁽¹⁾ one, the Commission supports remembrance projects, especially focusing on crimes committed under Nazi and other totalitarian regimes, through its annual Remembrance calls.

EU-funded projects are selected on the basis of published award criteria and are subject to monitoring and contractual compliance requirements. The Commission expects funded initiatives to respect established historical facts and avoid distortion, denial or relativisation of the crimes committed under the Nazi regime and other totalitarian regimes.

⁽¹⁾ https://citizens-equality-rights-values.campaign.europa.eu/index_en.