

EN
E-002412/2026
Answer given by Mr McGrath
on behalf of the European Commission
(16.9.2026)

Questions concerning the consequences of historical events, including reparations or compensation between Member States, are primarily the responsibility of the Member States concerned and fall outside the competences conferred upon the Commission by the EU Treaties¹.

Within the limits of its competences, the Commission remains firmly committed to support preserving the memory of the victims of the Second World War, promoting reconciliation, and fostering historical remembrance, dialogue and mutual understanding across the EU, in particular through relevant programmes such as the call on remembrance under the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme².

According to Article 51(1) of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights³, the Charter is applicable to Member States only when they are implementing EU law. As regards specifically the access to reparation of Polish World War II victims and their families for harm caused during the war, there are no applicable EU rules on this matter.

The Commission also recalls its replies to written parliamentary questions P-000819/2025⁴ and P-002838/2024⁵.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/collection/eu-law/treaties/treaties-force.html>.

² https://commission.europa.eu/funding-and-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/citizens-equality-rights-and-values-programme/citizens-equality-rights-and-values-programme-overview_en.

³ http://data.europa.eu/eli/treaty/char_2016/oj.

⁴ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/P-10-2025-000819-ASW_EN.html.

⁵ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/P-10-2024-002838-ASW_EN.html.