

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002856/26
to the Commission
Arkadiusz Mularczyk (ECR)
(9 July 2026)**

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

In response to my Written Question E-004595/2025 ⁽¹⁾ on the European Commission's position on responsibility for causing World War II, the Commission stated:

'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.'

In light of the above I would like to ask the following questions:

1. According to the Commission, is Nazi Germany's responsibility for causing the Second World War and the Holocaust one of these 'established historical facts'?
2. Does the Commission refuse — or has it ever refused or would it ever refuse — to finance projects that would relativise the crimes committed by Nazi Germany during World War II?
3. Will the Commission issue guidelines obliging beneficiaries of EU funds to indicate that Nazi Germany was responsible for causing World War II?

Submitted: 9.7.2026

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(20 October 2026)**

The Commission supports remembrance projects to raise awareness of defining events in modern European history, such as the Holocaust, genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

This happens in accordance with Articles 3 and 167 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. The principal objective is to improve the knowledge and dissemination of the culture and history of the European peoples.

As set out in the annex to the Commission Implementing Decision on the financing of the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme and the adoption of the work programme for 2026-2027 ⁽¹⁾, these projects aim to expand the general understanding of the EU, its origins, purpose, various dimensions and the importance of mutual understanding and tolerance.

The criteria for selecting and funding projects are set out in the respective CERV call for proposals documents, such as the CERV-2025-REM call ⁽²⁾, to which the Honourable Member is referring to.

The Commission does not intend to issue guidelines as suggested by the Honourable Member. The Commission considers that the existing regulatory framework, including the objectives and requirements of the CERV programme and the criteria set out in the relevant calls for proposals, provides an appropriate basis for ensuring that Union-funded projects contribute to an accurate, evidence-based and responsible understanding of European history.

¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-004595_EN.html.

⁽¹⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/7407c47d-d261-4dd3-82c8-b2da4fe65492_en?filename=CERV%20WORK%20PROGRAMME%202026-2027.PDF.

⁽²⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/cerv/wp-call/2025/call-fiche_cerv-2025-citizens-rem_en.pdf.