



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations

The Director-General

Brussels, 24.10.2018

Dear petitioners,

Thank you for your emails to the Commission regarding missing persons in Kosovo.

The Commission considers the unresolved fate of missing persons from the 1990s conflicts in the Western Balkans a grave humanitarian concern and regularly urges the governments of the region to intensify their efforts to address the remaining unresolved cases, in particular through greater regional collaboration and cooperation. The Commission also provides financial support to the region for the search and identification of missing persons.

Greater efforts and results in finding and identifying the missing persons are an important part of dealing with the past in the region. As we have noted in our Communication “A credible enlargement perspective for and enhanced EU engagement with the Western Balkans” of February 2018:

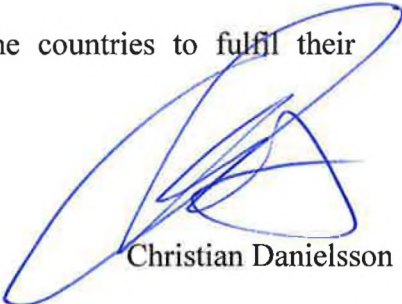
“The wounds of the 1990s still need time to heal. But 25 years on, it is time to address open issues with new vigour. All countries must unequivocally commit, in both word and deed, to overcoming the legacy of the past, by achieving reconciliation and solving open issues well before their accession to the EU.”

Due to the importance the Commission attaches to dealing with the past, one of the six flagships of the Communication’s Action Plan focuses on supporting reconciliation and good neighbourly relations.

At the London Summit in July 2018, the heads of governments of the region have committed inter alia to ensure effective and impartial investigations into missing person cases and to engage all relevant domestic institutions in exploring all possible avenues to obtain new information about gravesites.

The Commission will continue to support and urge the countries to fulfil their commitments.

Yours sincerely,



Christian Danielsson