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Death of Sergey Magnitsky

Written question No. 601 to the Committee of Ministers
by Mr Pieter OMTZIGT, Netherlands, Group of the European People's Party

In view of the "Guidelines on eradicating impunity for serious human rights violations" adopted by the Ministers' Deputies at their meeting on 30-31 March 2011, does the Committee of Ministers consider the death in pre-trial detention in Moscow of lawyer Sergey Magnitsky, allegedly tortured and left to die intentionally for having refused to give false testimony against his employer William Browder, as a serious human rights violation within the meaning of its guidelines?

If so, what action is the Committee of Ministers planning to take in order to ensure that those responsible for Mr. Magnitsky's death are held to account?

Has the Committee of Ministers entered into a dialogue with the Russian authorities on this topic?

A reply to these questions before 1 September 2011 would be highly appreciated.