

**Question for written answer E-001643/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Maciej Wąsik (ECR)

Subject: Violation of the principle of media freedom and pluralism by the government of Donald Tusk in Poland in relation to *Telewizja Republika*

Donald Tusk's government is violating the rights to freedom of the independent media. One of the largest television news channels in Poland, *TV Republika*, is consistently banned from attending the current government's press conferences. This is restricting media freedom and criticism. Prime Minister Tusk, who has emphasised his commitment to legal principles over recent years, is clearly violating the principle of media freedom and pluralism in Poland with his extra-legal actions¹

In its 2023 Rule of Law Report Country Chapter on Poland, the Commission defended, among other things, Russian intelligence agent Pablo González and reproduced completely false and misleading information suggesting that his detention was an example of the violation of media rights and freedoms in Poland².

1. Does the Commission intend to intervene in the case of breaches of the rule of law by the current government in Poland, which denies *TV Republika* journalists the right of access to information by not allowing them to attend government press conferences?
2. Will all political decisions of the government of Donald Tusk and the Coalition of 13 December that violate the provisions of the current Polish Constitution, including above all the principle of freedom and pluralism of the media, as well as free access to information, be taken into account by the Commission when drafting the next 2024 Rule of Law Report?

Submitted: 6.9.2024

¹ <https://www.bankier.pl/wiadomosc/TV-Republika-skarzy-sie-na-kancelarie-premiera-do-KRRiT-Nie-sa-wpuszczani-na-posiedzenia-8790490.html>; https://www.press.pl/tresc/82423,telewizja-republika-poinformowala-na-antenie_-ze-adrian-borecki-nie-zostal-wpuszczony-na-konferencje-premiera;https://dorzeczy.pl/kraj/618618/telewizja-republika-skarzy-sie-do-krrit-na-dzialanie-kprm.html

² In the 2023 Rule of Law Report, on page 31, the Commission, defending Pablo González (an agent of Russian intelligence) while accusing Poland of violating the principle of media freedom and pluralism, wrote that: 'The freelance journalist Pablo González was arrested in February 2022 in the city of Rzeszów by the Polish Security Services, where he was reporting on the refugee crisis caused by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. He was accused of conducting illegal espionage on behalf of Russia'. https://commission.europa.eu/publications/2023-rule-law-report-communication-and-country-chapters_en, (accessed: 30.08.2024).