Question for written answer E-000447/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Legitimacy of the European Democracy Shield

On 18 December 2024, the European Parliament voted in favour of setting up a 'Special Committee on the European Democracy Shield'.

This special committee follows on from the Commission's work on the European Democracy Shield, an initiative announced by Ursula von der Leyen on 14 May 2024 during her campaign for the presidency. The special committee's tasks will include tackling 'malicious interference' by state or non-state actors and ensuring the 'resilience of the Union' in democratic processes[1].

Parliament therefore endorses the Commission's desire to regulate the contours of democracy and to impede the sovereignty of the Member States.

1. Does the unelected Commission have the legitimacy to submit such legislative proposals, in disregard of the Treaties and national competences?

2. What legal bases allow it to intervene in the internal affairs of Member States or third countries?

3. What legal definition underpins the nebulous concepts of 'malicious actors' and 'like-minded partners'?

Supporters[2]

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[1] European Parliament decision of 18 December 2024 on setting up a special committee on the European Democracy Shield, and defining its responsibilities, numerical strength and term of office.
[2] This question is supported by Members other than the authors: Julien Leonardelli (PfE), Pál Szekeres (PfE)