

**Question for written answer E-002502/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Krzysztof Brejza (PPE)

Subject: Systemic political repression – Russian hybrid influence undermining democracy in the EU's Eastern Partnership

On 23 June 2025, a Georgian court sentenced opposition leader Zurab Japaridze to seven months' imprisonment and imposed a two-year ban on political activity. This follows a concerning trajectory of judicial repression orchestrated by the ruling Georgian Dream party, under the influence of oligarch Bidzina Ivanishvili. Numerous high-profile opposition leaders – including Mikheil Saakashvili, Nika Melia, Nika Gvaramia and Irakli Okruashvili – are currently imprisoned or facing imminent imprisonment under politically motivated charges.

These developments constitute a systematic dismantling of democratic institutions, in direct violation of Georgia's obligations under the EU-Georgia Association Agreement, and align with Russian hybrid warfare objectives in the Eastern Partnership region – seeking to erode democratic governance, provoke instability and obstruct Euro-Atlantic integration.

In this context:

1. What immediate and tangible measures will the Commission adopt to secure the release of Mr Japaridze and other political detainees?
2. What specific political, legal or financial instruments will the Commission activate to impose individualised sanctions on Mr Ivanishvili and affiliated enablers of repression?
3. In view of Georgia's democratic backsliding, when will the Commission initiate a formal review of the Association Agreement, and under what criteria?

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