

Question for written answer E-002868/2025

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Transparency and democratic accountability in Commission practices

In recent years, the Commission has been criticised for a pattern of opaque decision-making and lack of disclosure, raising concerns about democratic accountability in the EU. This includes the refusal to disclose key communications during major public procurement processes, restrictions on access to contracts with non-governmental organisations receiving EU funding and self-imposed exemptions from transparency rules in meetings with non-EU authorities¹²³.

These practices raise concerns about democratic accountability within the EU and risk eroding public trust in EU governance. If the Commission expects Member States to uphold the rule of law and transparency, it must apply the same standards to its own conduct.

1. What concrete measures will the Commission take to improve institutional transparency, particularly in relation to high-level communications and procurement processes involving significant public funds?
2. Does the Commission consider it compatible with democratic principles that Members of the European Parliament can only access NGO funding contracts under confidentiality agreements, and if so, why?
3. Will the President of the European Commission commit to publishing a comprehensive list of meetings held between Commission officials and non-EU representatives since 2022, including the purpose and participants of such meetings?

Submitted: 14.7.2025

¹ <https://brusselssignal.eu/2025/04/ec-admits-misuse-and-undue-lobbying-activities-in-grant-awards/>.

² <https://www.sullcrom.com/insights/memo/2025/May/EU-Court-Landmark-Ruling-Reinforces-Transparency-EU-Institutions>.

³ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-001292_EN.html.