

**Question for written answer E-002991/2025/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Tomasz Froelich (ESN)

Subject: Professional disqualification based on fictional novels

The Administrative Court of Koblenz has barred the author John Hoewer from starting his legal clerkship. The reason given is his alleged lack of loyalty to the constitution, which is said to be evident from Hoewer's political activities and his writings. Central to this assessment were passages from Hoewers' fictional novel *EuropaPowerbrutal*, published in 2021 by Jungeuropa, particularly statements made by the main character. Apparently, the statements of a 'lyrical ego' in a fictional novel serve as grounds for the Administrative Court of Koblenz to discern a lack of loyalty to the constitution and impose a de facto professional ban. It should be borne in mind that Hoewer has no criminal record and his book is not forbidden.

1. Is the Commission aware of similar cases in other Member States where individuals have been deemed disloyal to the constitution and barred from certain professions on the basis of fictional novels?
2. Is the action taken against Hoewer compatible with the freedom of expression and freedom of art enshrined in the European Charter of Fundamental Rights, which includes the freedom to create art without state-imposed restrictions, and does the Commission fear that repressive measures such as de facto professional bans could deter people from engaging in artistic activities or freely expressing their opinions?

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