

Question for written answer E-003048/2025

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Infiltration and surveillance: risks to fundamental rights, democracy and political pluralism in Italy

According to a recent press investigation¹, political party Potere al Popolo ('Power to the People'), which regularly runs in elections, was infiltrated by police officers for several months.

The alleged events took place in Naples, Milan, Bologna and Rome and involved five officers from the same training course, who were subsequently assigned to the Central Directorate of the Prevention Police (Counter-Terrorism).

When questioned in the Italian Chamber of Deputies, the State Secretary for the Interior admitted a recent strengthening of 'information tools' and described the events as 'ordinary activities for the police'².

The case fits into a context marked by the Graphite software scandal. The software was allegedly used for intrusive digital surveillance activities against activists and journalists.

The overall picture raises a strong suspicion of recurrent and intrusive recourse to surveillance tools.

In light of these events:

1. Will the Commission seek clarification from the Italian Government on the proportionality, reasons and extent of the operation, including the possible use of spyware?
2. Does it plan to include the case in the next rule of law report for Italy, mentioning the risks related to the political use of surveillance?
3. Does it think that similar practices can have a chilling effect on political activism and associations' activities, undermining the functioning of democracy in the Member States?

Submitted: 23.7.2025

¹ <https://www.fanpage.it/politica/abbiamo-scoperto-almeno-cinque-poliziotti-infiltrati-in-potere-al-popolo-i-documenti-che-lo-provano/>.

² <https://www.camera.it/leg19/410?idSeduta=0505&tipo=stenografico#sed0505.stenografico.tit00020.sub00010>.