

Question for written answer E-003425/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: EU enlargement and the abolition of the principle of unanimity

The European Union is at a critical juncture in its enlargement strategy. Recent reports suggest plans to accelerate the accession process of Ukraine, Türkiye or other Balkan countries, even bypassing the unanimity principle, in order to overcome possible vetoes by Member States.¹

At the same time, in its public interventions the Commission stresses the need for ‘renewed momentum’ for the enlargement process,² while public opinion in Europe — as recorded in the recent Eurobarometer³ — calls for protection, unity and stability as a priority.

Rapidly advancing enlargement without a parallel strengthening of institutions and without clear measures to maintain social cohesion could create serious problems: destabilizing the EU, undermining its democratic functioning and eroding citizens' trust.

In view of the above:

1. How does the Commission intend to ensure that enlargement does not undermine the cohesion, functionality and legitimacy of the EU?
2. Does the Commission intend to make a commitment that no decision on the decision-making process, such as the abolition of unanimity, will be taken without the full unanimity of the Member States?

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¹ <https://www.cer.eu/insights/does-eu-enlargement-require-voting-reform>.

² <https://icds.ee/en/a-new-but-ambiguous-momentum-in-eu-enlargement>.

³ <https://cep.org.rs/en/blog/europeans-have-spoken-what-does-the-latest-eurobarometer-say>.