

**Question for written answer E-003738/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Friedrich Pürner (NI)

Subject: Commission President using disappearing messages: impact on transparency and institutional accountability

In view of the right of access to documents of the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies (Article 15 TFEU) and the duty of the institutions, bodies, offices and agencies to operate in a transparent manner, I have taken note with great concern of the public statements made by Commission President Ursula von der Leyen's spokespersons on the fact that she often uses the 'disappearing messages' function on her mobile phone, in particular when it comes to politically sensitive messages such as the SMS exchange with the French President about the EU-Mercosur Agreement and the ongoing 'Pfizergate' procedure.

1. How does the Commission ensure that the use of the 'disappearing messages' function does not result in the loss of relevant information that should be archived or documented in accordance with EU transparency obligations?
2. What objective criteria does it use to decide whether communication – in particular between the Commission President and third parties such as heads of state or government or business representatives – needs to be archived or not?
3. What specific measures will it take to ensure that digital exchanges of potential political, legal or administrative importance are clearly documented in future, irrespective of the technical medium used or storage function?

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