

**Question for written answer E-003854/2025/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Tomasz Froelich (ESN)

Subject: Alleged pressure on Telegram to remove lawful content in Moldova and attempted interference in a French judicial process

Telegram founder Pavel Durov has publicly stated that, while he was in Paris a year ago, intermediaries claiming links to French intelligence approached him.

First, they allegedly made an offer that French intelligence would ‘say good things’ to the judge overseeing his legal case if he helped the Moldovan Government censor certain Telegram channels ahead of the Moldovan presidential elections.

Second, after Telegram removed certain channels that genuinely violated its rules, the same intermediaries allegedly provided a second list of channels to be censored that were politically critical but fully compliant with its moderation policies, requests that Telegram refused¹.

These claims, if substantiated, raise serious concerns about judicial independence, freedom of expression and potential political censorship.

1. Is the Commission aware of these allegations?
2. Does EU law provide protection against Member State authorities that pressure online platforms to remove legal speech or that attempt to influence judicial decisions?
3. Will the Commission investigate whether such actions, if confirmed, constitute violations of EU principles on judicial independence and freedom of expression and report its findings to Parliament?

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¹ <https://x.com/durov/status/1972263703149002980>.