

**Question for written answer E-003952/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Impact of AI on freedom of speech

The development of artificial intelligence continues apace, and Russia and China are using it to destabilise European democracies.

Deepfakes are increasingly being used to embroil political figures in scandals. In May 2023, for example, a candidate in the Turkish presidential election resigned after being discredited by deepfake-generated pornographic content. AI-supported visual content created specifically to defame political figures can indirectly change their behaviour and directly influence election results. This constitutes a serious violation of freedom of expression.

In Germany, deepfake technology has so far been used primarily for fraudulent or pornographic purposes, but political deepfakes are also on the rise. It is almost inevitable that they will be used to influence political activity in the future.

The right to free expression is enshrined in the European Convention on Human Rights.

1. Is the Commission planning any specific legislative measures to counter the new threat to freedom of expression posed by AI?
2. Should the foreign interference and manipulation of information (FIMI) toolkit, the Action Plan for Democracy in Europe's package of measures to combat disinformation – including AI-generated deepfakes – by foreign actors, be expanded from a descriptive project into a model for real-world operation?

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