Question for written answer E-004009/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
César Luena (S&D)

Subject: Concerns about changes to the Commission's transparency rules and restricted access to environmental and public health documents

On 22 September 2025, ClientEarth brought an action before the EU General Court against the Commission for having amended its transparency rules and thus blocked public access to key documents on health and the environment, including draft legislation, legal opinions, environmental impact assessments and internal communications. The organisation argues that these changes violate the EU treaties, Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 on access to documents, the Aarhus Convention and several judgments of the Court of Justice of the EU. In spite of this and objections from civil society, the Commission is standing by its changes, thereby hindering democratic participation and the public's right to access vital information.

In view of the above:

1. How does the Commission ensure that the recent changes to its transparency rules comply with Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, the Aarhus Convention and CJEU case-law, especially with regard to access to crucial documents on health and the environment?

2. Does it intend to reverse these changes to ensure that it fully respects the right to access information and the right to democratic participation, as provided for in the Treaties and in EU legislation?

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