

Question for written answer E-004056/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Nikos Pappas (The Left)

Subject: Abusive behaviour in sport - Athletes must be better protected

According to the recent European Parliament resolution on the role of EU policies in shaping the European Sport Model (A10-0157/2025), the protection of athletes from all forms of violence, abuse and harassment is a fundamental priority of the Union. However, recent incidents of abusive behaviour in sport highlight serious shortcomings in the protection of athletes. In Greece, a sailing coach was accused of raping an 11-year-old athlete, while in Italy and Spain allegations of psychological and physical abuse have not led to any substantive sanctions.

The European Union, on the basis of Regulation (EU) 2021/817, the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, must ensure a safe and inclusive environment for all athletes, with European protection standards and effective reporting mechanisms.

Accordingly:

1. How does the Commission intend to proceed with the immediate implementation of the recommendations of this resolution and to strengthen the implementation of Regulation (EU) 2021/817 on preventing and combating abusive behaviour in sport?
2. Will the Commission promote guidance and European protection standards, as well as complaint procedures for sports clubs and federations, in order to facilitate the prompt and independent investigation of incidents?
3. Will the Commission consider establishing a European coordination mechanism for the protection of athletes?

Submitted: 15.10.2025