

**Question for written answer E-004159/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Tomáš Zdechovský (PPE)

Subject: Commissioners' accountability under the Code of Conduct in an age of misinformation

Article 5 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the European Commission requires Commissioners to uphold the dignity of their office, act with integrity and discretion and avoid any conduct that might adversely affect public confidence in the Commission's independence, impartiality or credibility.

1. Given the growing spread of misinformation and its impact on public trust, would the Commission consider it incompatible with Article 5 if a serving Commissioner were to publicly contradict established scientific consensus in order to promote a personal or political position?
2. For example, if a Commissioner were to deny the existence or human causes of climate change, claim that vaccines cause autism or assert that exposure to 5G mobile networks causes cancer, would this be regarded as a breach of the code?
3. What mechanisms exist to review and address such cases, and how does the Commission ensure that Commissioners' public statements remain consistent with evidence-based and science-informed policymaking?

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