

Question for written answer E-004244/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Fredis Beleris (PPE)

Subject: Backsliding of Albanian Parliament honouring the Communist dictator Enver Hoxha

On 3 October 2025, the Albanian Parliament released an official document honouring figures born or deceased in October for their contributions to the Albanian State. Among them, shockingly, appeared Communist dictator Enver Hoxha – described as a ‘hero of the people’ and ‘hero of socialist labour’.

Hoxha’s totalitarian regime, which lasted from 1944 and 1985, is widely recognised as one of the harshest in Europe, characterised by mass imprisonment, executions, forced labour and pervasive fear. According to Albania’s Institute for the Studies of Communist Crimes and Consequences, around 35 000 people were imprisoned for political reasons. Around 5 500 people were sentenced to death, while another 6 000 were executed with or without trial, their remains never recovered.

Parliament’s resolution of 19 September 2019 on the importance of European remembrance for the future of Europe firmly condemns all forms of totalitarian propaganda and glorification. Such gestures of revisionism are particularly concerning given that key issues stemming from the Hoxha era – such as missing persons, unresolved property registration and the legacy of political suppression – remain unaddressed to this day.

In the light of the above, can the Commission clarify:

What steps can be taken to ensure that Albania’s revisionism regarding its totalitarian past does not lead to backsliding in fulfilling its human rights and rule of law obligations as an EU candidate country?

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