

Question for written answer E-004353/2025

to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Rule 144

Pina Picierno (S&D)

Subject: Opera singer Ildar Abdrazakov's performance at the Teatro Filarmonico in Verona

According to official sources¹, opera singer Ildar Abdrazakov will star in *Don Giovanni* at the Teatro Filarmonico in Verona in January 2026.

Abdrazakov is known for openly supporting the Russian Government and many reports indicate that he is a leading Kremlin propagandist. He supported the 'Putin list' in Russia's presidential election, speaking publicly in support of the Kremlin's policies, and Putin rewarded him by appointing him a member of the Presidential Council for Arts and Culture, replacing members who had advocated for peace.

Navalny's Anti-Corruption Foundation has included him in its list of 'warmongers', i.e. staunch proponents of the war, on account of his active support for the Kremlin regime.

As a result of his activism and clear political resolve, Abdrazakov has already been banned from some of Europe's leading stages – with concerts cancelled in Paris, Zurich, Vienna and Rome – and from major theatres in the US.

In view of the above:

1. Is the Commission aware that Abdrazakov is due to perform at the Teatro Filarmonico in Verona?
2. What measures can – and will – it take to ensure that his appearance is cancelled, taking into account the numerous Russian sanctions packages?

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¹ <https://www.arena.it/teatro-filarmonico-verona/2026/don-giovanni/>.