

**Question for written answer E-004610/2025  
to the Commission**  
Rule 144  
**Harald Vilimsky (PfE), Georg Mayer (PfE)**

**Subject:** Questionable reform efforts pertaining to the 2024 European elections

A report by the Committee on Constitutional Affairs (AFCO) reviewing the 2024 European elections contains numerous proposals for reforming EU electoral law. These include calls for a uniform minimum voting age of 16, a mandatory electoral threshold of between 3.5% and 5%, a more binding lead candidate principle and far-reaching meddling in national electoral laws. It further advocates for the European Parliament to play a more prominent role in appointing the Commission and the expansion of measures to ‘promote democracy’.

1. How will the Commission ensure that the European Democracy Shield is not misused as a political tool for opinion control and censorship, especially against Eurosceptic or conservative voices?
2. Why has the Commission remained silent on the fact that voter turnout in many EU countries remains dramatically low – in some cases below 25% – despite the EU’s supposed efforts to strengthen democracy, and does the Commission see this behaviour as a sign of the failure of European-level politics?
3. How does the Commission justify its ongoing efforts to ‘harmonise’ national electoral law, even though under to Article 223 TFEU this is clearly a matter for the Member States?

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