

Question for written answer E-004626/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Paolo Borchia (Pfe)

Subject: Support for family associations and EU funding assessment criteria

In the light of recent statements by the Federation of Catholic Family Associations in Europe (FAFCE), representing 30 family associations in 20 European countries, it should be pointed out that the Federation has been denied access to European funding. The reason for that refusal was information considered to be ‘limited as regards gender inequality in civil society participation and organisation’, hence preventing a full project evaluation. This decision raises serious questions over the recognition by the EU institutions of the role of family associations and of a family-centred approach, including in relation to the demographic challenges confronting Europe today.

In view of the above:

1. How does the Commission intend to address demographic challenges in Europe if it does not support associations such as FAFCE, which place the family at the centre of their activities?
2. Why is a family-centred approach not considered relevant for the analysis of gender inequalities and project evaluation?
3. Will it review the criteria for assessing projects to ensure that representative EU-level family associations are not penalised by a restrictive interpretation of gender inequality?

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