

Question for written answer E-004629/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Carolina Morace (The Left)

Subject: Risks to the European sport model posed by the proposed ‘NBA Europe’ project

The proposed ‘NBA Europe’, promoted by the US-based National Basketball Association (NBA) together with *Fédération Internationale de Basketball* (FIBA), would establish a closed league in Europe with permanent franchises and external corporate control. Such a structure risks undermining the European sport model, which is grounded in solidarity, community participation, youth development and equality, as enshrined in Articles 6 and 165 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union¹ and in Parliament’s resolution on the European sport model.

This initiative could lead to the extraction of fiscal and economic value outside the EU, threaten the sustainability of grassroots and junior systems, marginalise women’s sport by prioritising commercial profitability over equality goals, and weaken the governance role of European federations in favour of a foreign entertainment corporation.

1. Does the Commission consider that ‘NBA Europe’ could amount to a monopolistic structure incompatible with EU competition and cohesion objectives?
2. How does the Commission intend to prevent the fiscal, social and governance extraction of value generated by European sport to non-EU entities?
3. Will the Commission assess whether ‘NBA Europe’ is compatible with the EU’s commitments to equality, solidarity, and the protection of cultural and sporting diversity across the Member States?

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¹ OJ C 326, 26.10.2012, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/treaty/tfeu_2012/oj.