

Question for written answer E-004824/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Roberto Vannacci (PfE)

Subject: Growing persecution of Christians around the world – ensuring that EU external funds and partnerships uphold religious freedom and fundamental rights

Open Doors' 2025 World Watch List claims that more than 380 million Christians around the world are being persecuted and discriminated against for their faith. The destruction of churches, the detention and killing of Christians and the fact that their communities are living under constant threat are proof that the situation is steadily deteriorating.

Seeing as the European Union continues to finance countries that do not uphold freedom of religion and has not made access to funding conditional on upholding fundamental rights, and given that Article 10 of the CFR enshrines the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion and that Articles 2 and 21 TEU state that the Union's external action must promote human dignity and fundamental freedoms:

1. How does the Commission justify the fact that the EU is still funding and cooperating with governments that do not protect freedom of worship?
2. Will the Commission make upholding freedom of religion a binding criterion for the allocation of EU funds?

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