Question for written answer E-000215/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Police raid on LGBT persons in Baku and Azerbaijan's human rights obligations towards the EU

Recent credible reports, including by international media and human rights organisations, describe a police raid on an LGBT-friendly club in Baku, Azerbaijan during which more than 100 people were detained. Detainees reportedly faced violence, humiliation, denial of access to legal counsel and discriminatory treatment based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

Such practices raise serious concerns regarding Azerbaijan's compliance with its international human rights obligations, including under the European Convention on Human Rights, as well as its commitments under the EU-Azerbaijan Partnership and Cooperation Agreement[1], which places respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms at the core of bilateral relations.

In this context, the Commission is asked:

1. How does the Commission assess these reported events and Azerbaijan's compliance with its human rights obligations, in particular regarding non-discrimination and protection of minorities?

2. Has the Commission raised these allegations with the Azerbaijani authorities, and if so, what was their response?

3. What measures does the Commission intend to take, including through political dialogue and conditionality in EU-Azerbaijan cooperation, to address these violations and to support civil society and vulnerable communities, including LGBT persons in Azerbaijan?

Submitted: 21.1.2026

[1] OJ L 246, 17.9.1999, p. 3, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_internation/1999/614/oj.