Question for written answer E-001689/2026
to the Council
Rule 144
Emil Radev (PPE), Andrey Kovatchev (PPE), Andrey Novakov (PPE), Axel Voss (PPE), Eva Maydell (PPE), François-Xavier Bellamy (PPE), Fredis Beleris (PPE), Ilia Lazarov (PPE), Jeroen Lenaers (PPE), Tomas Tobé (PPE), Tomáš Zdechovský (PPE), Adrián Vázquez Lázara (PPE), Marion Walsmann (PPE), Lukas Mandl (PPE)

Subject: Concerns regarding the termination of the Bulgarian EPPO selection procedure

In 2025, a national selection procedure for the nomination of Bulgarian candidates for the position of European Prosecutor at the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) was duly completed by the former government through an open and transparent competition involving multiple candidates and evaluated by an independent panel composed of judges, prosecutors, an academic, and representatives of the Ministry of Justice. The procedure followed the same methodology as the 2020 selection procedure, which was considered to be compliant with EU standards.

The process has advanced to the EU level, with candidate interviews scheduled before the competent selection panel in April. However, the interim government, appointed in February 2026 and tasked with a limited mandate to organise elections, has decided to terminate the procedure without providing clear legal grounds for its decision.

In this context, the Council is asked:

1. How does it assess the compatibility of such actions with the principles of legal certainty and sincere cooperation, and the independence of the EPPO under Regulation (EU)2017/1939?

2. Could this create a precedent whereby political changes within a Member State undermine ongoing EU procedures?

3. Does the Council consider that the procedure should continue as planned, given that it is compliant with EU standards and has advanced to the EU level, and if so, what EU measures could ensure the continuity of the current procedure?

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