Question for written answer E-002520/2026/rev.1
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Request that the Commission publish evidence pertaining to the non-activation of the Blocking Statute

Since 6 February 2025, US sanctions have been imposed on judges and prosecutors of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

These sanctions, imposed in direct response to the work of the ICC and in particular the arrest warrants issued against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former defence minister Yoav Gallant for war crimes and crimes against humanity, constitute an unacceptable attack on the independence of international justice and the dignity of the judges targeted.

At a meeting of Parliament's Subcommittee on Human Rights (DROI) and Committee on Legal Affairs (JURI) on 6 May 2026, the European External Action Service reconfirmed that it was the Commission's prerogative to activate the Blocking Statute[1] to counter the effect of the US sanctions – in the absence of opposition from the Council or Parliament – following an 'in-depth assessment'. However, Parliament has already requested this activation on several occasions (see resolutions 2025/2528[2] and 2025/2852[3]).

When does the Commission plan to publish the content of its assessment, which is supposed to determine the relevance of activating the Blocking Statute?

Supporter[4]

Submitted: 17.6.2026

[1] Council Regulation (EC) No 2271/96 of 22 November 1996 protecting against the effects of the extra-territorial application of legislation adopted by a third country, and actions based thereon or resulting therefrom (ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/1996/2271/oj).

[2] Resolution of 12 March 2025 on continuing the unwavering EU support for Ukraine, after three years of Russia's war of aggression (ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/C/2025/3150/oj).

[3] Resolution of 11 September 2025 on Gaza at breaking point: EU action to combat famine, the urgent need to release hostages and move towards a two-state solution (Texts adopted, P10_TA(2025)0199).

[4] This question is supported by a Member other than the authors: Brando Benifei (S&D).