Question for written answer E-002534/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Online gambling: protecting EU citizens, promoting the integrity of the single market and safeguarding tax fairness

In recent years, the gambling sector has become increasingly digital. Despite the cross-border nature of such services, online gambling remains primarily regulated at national level. This fragmentation fails to address spillover effects, given that companies can establish themselves in jurisdictions with lenient regulations while providing services across the EU.

The current situation creates an uneven playing field and can undermine both consumer protection and taxation laws. Furthermore, lack of regulation enables aggressive marketing of these services, posing a risk to consumers, particularly young people, while potentially leading to addiction and rapid debt accumulation.

1. Does the Commission recognise the need for a harmonised regulatory framework for online gambling at EU level to address cross-border spillover effects and ensure a level playing field for all enterprises?

2. What specific issues can be addressed at EU level to strengthen consumer protection, notably by restricting aggressive advertising and preventing gambling-induced addiction and debt accumulation?

3. How can the taxation of cross-border digital gambling operators be improved to ensure that they pay a fair share of taxes in the Member States where their consumers are located?

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