Question for written answer E-002950/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Update by the Commission of its guidelines on tackling online disinformation during electoral processes

In 2027, nine EU countries will hold elections amid hybrid warfare and growing foreign interference through information manipulation on social media.

However, the Commission supervises these platforms through the Digital Services Act (DSA).

Article 34 DSA requires the assessment of 'systemic risks', including their impact on freedom of expression, civic discourse and electoral processes.

Article 35 empowers the Commission to issue guidelines for mitigating such risks. Although the Commission issued guidelines in April 2024, they remain insufficient to address the latest methods of foreign interference.

The necessary improvements include:

– providing clarification to Member States on their capabilities to act;

– taking AI into account;

– freezing recommendation algorithms before and during elections;

– restricting political profiling;

– promoting reliable sources;

– swiftly deleting inauthentic accounts;

– distinguishing between regular and campaign-specific tools.

1. Has the Commission planned to update its guidelines on the mitigation of systemic risks during electoral processes?

2. What would be the timeline for their publication before the end of 2026, in coordination with the European External Action Service, the European Centre for Democratic Resilience and national authorities?

Supporter[1]

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