

Question for written answer E-003115/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Christine Anderson (ESN)

Subject: The Commission's fractured reality II: information integrity, lawful disagreement and EU competence

The Joint Research Centre's presentation of its report on fractured reality describes democracy as dependent on the 'integrity of the information space', a 'shared foundation' and 'evidence-informed' debate, while referring to 'distorted reality' and citizens living in 'different realities'.

This appears to move beyond the traditional liberal-democratic model, under which pluralism includes the freedom to reject institutional opinion, dispute expert claims, distrust public authorities and advance minority interpretations. It risks replacing limits on public power with institutional supervision of how political opinions are formed.

1. How does the Commission define 'information integrity', 'shared foundation', 'evidence-informed debate' and 'distorted reality' for the purposes of its policies and programmes?
2. Which authority or actor is entitled to determine when lawful political, scientific or factual disagreement ceases to constitute pluralism and instead threatens the integrity of the information space?
3. What specific Treaty legal basis, beyond Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union, would permit EU action intended to shape or secure the information environment in the Member States, and does the Commission agree that Article 2 is not a general competence clause?

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