Question for written answer E-003166/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Territorial scope of the amended EU-Morocco Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation concerning Morocco's participation in PRIMA

The proposed amendment to the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco establishes the conditions for Morocco's participation in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area (PRIMA).

In its judgments concerning EU-Morocco agreements, the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) has consistently held that Western Sahara is a territory that is separate and distinct from Morocco under international law. Consequently, agreements concluded between the EU and Morocco cannot apply to Western Sahara unless this is expressly provided for and subject to the applicable requirements under international law.

In the light of the above:

1. What legal and administrative safeguards has the Commission put in place to ensure that no projects, funding, research activities or infrastructure financed under PRIMA are implemented in Western Sahara through the participation of Morocco?

2. If research entities established in or operating in Western Sahara were to seek participation in projects financed under the Agreement, how would the Commission ensure compliance with the case-law of the CJEU and the EU's obligations under international law?

3. Has the Commission carried out a legal assessment of the territorial scope of the amended Agreement in the light of the CJEU's judgments concerning the applicability of EU-Morocco agreements to Western Sahara, and if so, will it make that assessment available to Parliament?

Submitted: 29.7.2026