

**Question for written answer E-003729/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Erik Kaliňák (NI)

Subject: Horizon Europe, or when science ends and a political project begins

The EU is funding projects under the Horizon Europe programme focusing on conducting research into far-right, identity-based and nationalist movements. For example, the YOU-DARE project has received nearly EUR 3 million and, according to the CORDIS database, is not intended to be limited to research alone. It also envisages political recommendations and local pilot initiatives aimed at reducing the appeal of far-right views on gender among young people. This approach raises many questions.

In light of the above:

1. What criteria does the Commission use to distinguish legitimate scientific research into political extremism from activities aimed at influencing citizens' political attitudes funded by the EU budget?
2. How does the Commission ensure that such projects do not lead to lawful views on gender, migration, the family or national sovereignty – which form part of democratic political discourse – being labelled as extremist or anti-democratic?
3. In the Commission's view, is it compatible with the political neutrality of EU funding for the Horizon Europe programme to finance interventions whose stated aim is to reduce the appeal of a specific ideological or political current?

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