

Question for written answer E-003946/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Jan Farský (PPE)

Subject: The MFF and independence safeguards for the state administration

The Czech Chamber of Deputies has approved a bill on state employees which fundamentally alters the nature of the state administration – from a public body to a private one. The bill was tabled by a group of deputies without going through the comments procedure, without a regulatory impact assessment (RIA) and without any assessment by the Government Legislative Council.

Unlike in many Member States, where the office of ‘state secretary’ is a political role, in the Czech Republic it denotes the most senior, politically neutral civil service post within each ministry – responsible for ensuring the legality of decisions on personnel and the fairness of selection procedures. It is precisely this professional independence that the new bill undermines: it would allow ministers to appoint, appraise and dismiss state secretaries directly, with only the prime minister’s approval required. What is more, the hitherto independent civil service commission, which previously was able to block any targeted measures, will now become a merely advisory body – thus replacing an effective safeguard with nothing more than the option to sue the State, in proceedings that would take more than four years.

An independent and politically neutral state administration acts as a vital guarantor of the rule of law and the impartial management of EU funds – including in the sensitive area of subsidies, where protection from political pressure is crucial, not least with regard to possible conflicts of interest.

Does the Commission consider safeguards for the independence of the state administration to be a prerequisite for drawing on the multiannual financial framework, with a view to ensuring the protection of the Union’s financial interests and in keeping with the principles of the rule of law? Does the Commission intend to monitor these developments in the Czech Republic?

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