

Question for written answer E-004304/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Elisabeth Dieringer (PfE)

Subject: Serbia's parliamentary elections on 25 October 2026: impartiality of election observers from EU institutions

According to media reports¹, acting Serbian President Ana Brnabić addressed a letter to the President of the European Parliament in which she challenged the composition of Parliament's observation delegation for the parliamentary elections of 25 October 2026. She accuses several MEPs of taking a public stance against the Serbian authorities ahead of the elections.

EU election observation missions are subject to the 2022 ethical guidelines to the code of conduct for EU election observers. Those guidelines state that even a post published prior to deployment, in which a mission member expresses or endorses any opinion regarding the politicians or political processes of the host country, may constitute a breach of the code.

1. Does the Commission also consider this benchmark appropriate for observers from other EU institutions who, alongside international missions, observe elections in candidate countries?
2. Will it base its assessment of the 25 October elections in the accession process on the final report of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, disregarding individual statements made by members of the observation delegations?
3. Does it agree that the credibility of accession conditionality suffers when observers from EU institutions openly take sides ahead of an election?

Submitted: 20.10.2026

¹ <https://www.rapporteur.com/news/serbia-accuses-eu-election-observers-of-political-bias/?shem=aimgspe>.