

**Question for written answer E-004331/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Daniel Freund (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Criminal proceedings against the president of the Hungarian Integrity Authority

Hungary established the Integrity Authority at the request of the Commission as part of the remedial measures under the rule of law conditionality regime¹, with a mandate to prevent, detect and address fraud, conflicts of interest and corruption affecting EU funds.

Criminal proceedings have since been brought against the Integrity Authority's president, Ferenc Pál Biró, following an investigation launched in January 2025, the charges having been filed in June 2026. Mr Biró has publicly stated that the proceedings are politically motivated.

1. What has the Commission done to ensure that the investigation against the Integrity Authority's president is not being used as an instrument of political retaliation against an independent anti-corruption institution?
2. Has the Commission examined whether the allegations, their timing, the investigative measures and the institutional consequences of this case are compatible with the requirement that Hungary maintain an effective, independent and adequately protected integrity framework?
3. Should the Commission conclude that the Integrity Authority's independence or operational capacity has been undermined, what measures or consequences would it consider appropriate to safeguard the protection of EU funds and compliance with Hungary's relevant commitments?

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¹ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2020/2092 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2020 on a general regime of conditionality for the protection of the Union budget, OJ L 433I, 22.12.2020, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2020/2092/oj>.