Priority question for written answer P-000317/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Use of public funds for environmental lobbying

It has been reported[1] that the Commission has funded environmental organisations, including those supported by former Commissioner Frans Timmermans in connection with the Nature Restoration Law. Subsidies amounting to EUR 700 000 have reportedly been used to steer the public debate towards the greenest positions. This funding raises questions about the use of public funds and compliance with the principles of transparency and ethics.

Swift clarification is essential to ensure the proper use of public funds and restore citizens' trust in the European institutions. In this regard:

1. Can the Commission confirm whether public subsidies have been used to encourage organisations to lobby for its own legislative proposals, and if so, to what extent?

2. What measures have been taken to prevent public funds from being used for indirect lobbying, in particular through the LIFE programme, which promotes green laws?

3. How does the Commission ensure transparency and impartiality in the award and use of subsidies allocated to organisations carrying out lobbying activities?

Supporters[2]

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[1] Lobbyschandaal in Brussel: EU betaalde milieuclubs in het geheim voor promotie van groene plannen Timmermans – Alexander Baaker – *De Telegraaf* – 22 January 2025.

[2] This question is supported by Members other than the authors: Fabrice Leggeri (PfE), Matthieu Valet (PfE), Séverine Werbrouck (PfE)