

**Priority question for written answer P-004938/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Sandro Gozi (Renew)

Subject: Use of EU funds in Hungary in the field of juvenile justice and child protection

Recent investigations and public reporting in Hungary have exposed serious abuses of minors at the Budapesti Javítóintézet (Szőlő Street juvenile correctional facility in Budapest), and broader systemic failures within the juvenile justice and child protection system. Official reports indicate that the competent authorities were aware of these abuses as early as 2021, yet failed to take timely and effective action to prevent further harm or ensure accountability.

Although there is currently no public evidence that this specific facility directly received EU funding, Hungary has benefited from substantial EU financial support for social inclusion and services for vulnerable minors, notably through the European Social Fund (Plus), the European Regional Development Fund and other cohesion instruments.

In this context, can the Commission clarify the following:

1. Which EU-funded programmes in Hungary (2014-2020 and 2021-2027) relate to juvenile justice or institutional care for minors, and what amounts were allocated?
2. Does the Commission consider existing safeguards and monitoring mechanisms sufficient to prevent fundamental rights violations in this sector?
3. Will the Commission commit to enhancing transparency and accountability in the use of EU funds in Hungary, including through a fact-finding mission by Parliament and an in-depth review of national compliance with EU rule of law and child protection standards?

Submitted: 15.12.2025