Priority question for written answer P-003526/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Extraterritorial impact of the US designation of Autistici/Inventati as a terrorist entity

On 26 August 2026, the United States designated Autistici/Inventati, an Italian non-profit providing privacy-protecting email, hosting and communication services since 2001, as a 'specially designated global terrorist'. Within days, its domain and email services had been disrupted, PayPal had blocked its account and Banca Etica had moved to end its banking relationship[1].

The designation targets infrastructure for alleged conduct by its users, without public evidence that Autistici/Inventati knowingly facilitated terrorist activity or any prior EU or Italian finding. This raises concerns regarding due process and freedom of expression, amid the Trump administration's broader push against far-left movements, and clashes with EU principles on intermediary liability and the rule of law[2].

The designation is neither an EU terrorist listing nor a judicial finding, yet its extraterritorial effects risk deplatforming lawful European users, including civil society organisations, journalists and humanitarian actors, and disabling European digital infrastructure. An administrative determination by a non-EU country has produced consequences in a Member State through domain and financial dependencies, before EU or national authorities have examined the facts.

1. Has the Commission been able to independently corroborate the allegations underpinning the US designation, including whether competent EU or national authorities had previously identified systematic infringements by Autistici/Inventati, issued removal orders or otherwise established that it had knowingly facilitated unlawful or terrorist activity?

2. How will the Commission safeguard EU regulatory autonomy, lawful users and digital infrastructure from disproportionate extraterritorial sanctions?

Submitted: 7.9.2026

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[1] RaiNews, 'Le sanzioni americane al collettivo italiano "Autistici/Inventati"', https://www.rainews.it/articoli/2026/08/le-sanzioni-americane-al-collettivo-italiani-autisticiinventati-586c570a-033e-4d24-a595-dbf2da57d844.html.

[2] Article 6 of the Digital Services Act makes hosting liability conditional on actual knowledge or awareness of illegal content, while Regulation (EU) 2021/784 provides for content-specific removal orders, reasoned decisions, proportionality, redress and safeguards against general monitoring.