

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003375/25
to the Commission
Friedrich Pürner (NI)
(3 September 2025)**

Subject: Follow-up question to question for written answer P-002320/2025 — Consequences in the context of financial support for non-governmental organisations (NGOs) (LIFE programme)

I am grateful for the Commission's answer P-10-2025-002320-ASW_EN ⁽¹⁾ dated 28.7.2025.

Unfortunately, no reply was given to question 1.

For that reason, I am submitting the question again, and I would be grateful if the Commission could provide an answer.

What disciplinary, legal, or administrative consequences will the Commission draw with regard to NGOs and, where applicable, to EU officials involved in the cases mentioned, in particular in relation to ClientEarth (legal action against German coal-fired power plants) and Friends of the Earth (campaigns against the Mercosur Agreement)?

Submitted: 3.9.2025

**Answer given by Ms Roswall on behalf of the European Commission
(12 November 2025)**

The Commission has indicated in its reply to the Written Question P-002320/2025 that operating grants comply fully with the EU programme for the environment and climate action (LIFE) Regulation ⁽¹⁾ adopted by the co-legislators and that their management is fully in line with the EU Financial Regulation ⁽²⁾.

Furthermore, the findings and audits carried out in the context of the European Court of Auditors special report 11/2025 ⁽³⁾, while identifying transparency issues, did not indicate or report any compliance issues of the non-governmental organisation (NGO) grants audited.

As indicated in the reply to the written questions E-002487/2025 and E-002488/2025, the NGOs supported by the LIFE programme have full independence in deciding the content and implementation of their work programme.

The Commission has also confirmed in this reply that it has not had any exchange of information with ClientEarth regarding legal actions undertaken by the NGO against coal-burning plants in the period 2022-2023.

Subsequently, there is no ground for any legal or administrative action against the aforementioned NGO or other NGOs that receive LIFE operating grants, or Commission officials engaged in the management of these grants.

¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/P-10-2025-002320-ASW_EN.html

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2021/783 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2021 establishing a Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE), and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013, OJ L 172, 17.05.2021, p.53.

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (recast), OJ L, 2024/2509, 26.9.2024.

⁽³⁾ Special report 11/2025: Transparency of EU funding granted to NGOs — European Court of Auditors, <https://www.eca.europa.eu/en/publications/sr-2025-11>; and https://www.eca.europa.eu/Lists/ECARepplies/COM-Replies-SR-2025-11/COM-Replies-SR-2025-11_EN.pdf.