(English version)

Question for written answer E-003644/25
to the Commission
Nikolaos Anadiotis (NI)
(19 September 2025)

Subject: Assassination of Charlie Kirk — condemnation of political violence in the EU

The assassination of Charlie Kirk on 10 September 2025 at a US university sent shockwaves across the globe. Leaders in Europe have condemned his killing, with the President of the European Parliament, Roberta Metsola, saying she was 'shocked at the absolutely horrific assassination'. ([1]) However, when a call was made in the European Parliament to hold a minute's silence in his memory, the Bureau denied the request, prompting backlash. ([2]) At the same time, 84 MEPs from a range of political groups called for a resolution strongly condemning political violence regardless of ideology.

When it comes to protecting democracy, there should be no distinction. Citizens' sense of security and the credibility of institutions cannot be subject to political, ideological or other choices. Any act of violence directed against people on the basis of their beliefs threatens social cohesion and the values of the Union and must be addressed with a unified stance.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. Does the Commission agree that the EU must be consistent in condemning political violence, regardless of victims' beliefs?

2. How does it intend to make democracy more resilient in the face of political targeting?

3. Will it support the initiative of 84 Members of the European Parliament for a resolution condemning such violence and establishing a unified stance to be taken in the event of such incidents?

Submitted: 19.9.2025

Answer given by Mr McGrath on behalf of the European Commission
(5 December 2025)

Respect for fundamental rights and democratic values is at the heart of the Commission's work. The Commission firmly believes that political violence must be consistently condemned in all its forms.

In the communication on the European Democracy Shield ([1]) adopted in November 2025, the Commission announced several measures focused on fostering safety in politics. To better ensure the safety of political candidates and elected representatives from threats, attacks and violence online and offline, the Commission will prepare a recommendation on safety in politics, will work with Member States on a dedicated guide of best practices, and will support capacity-building, voluntary commitments and ethical standards on this matter.

It is not the role of the Commission to take a stance on possible resolutions of the European Parliament, which is for the Parliament to decide according to its own rules.

---

[1] [1]https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2025/09/11/charlie-kirks-death-triggers-angry-reactions-and-clashes-from-his-european-fans

[2] [2]https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2025/09/19/right-wing-meps-call-for-european-parliament-to-condemn-charlie-kirk-murder

1 JOIN(2025) 791 final.