

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004600/25
to the Commission
Emmanouil Fragkos (ECR)
(18 November 2025)**

Subject: Muslim Brotherhood activity in Europe

The Muslim Brotherhood presents itself as a socio-religious movement, but it has repeatedly been linked to inciting political extremism, to networks related to terrorism, and to promoting an anti-Christian, anti-democratic and anti-Western/anti-Greek agenda. Russia, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates have labelled it a terrorist organisation, noting that it uses religion as a vehicle for political influence and undermining institutions. In Europe, the lack of decisive action has allowed its offshoots to infiltrate religious and educational institutions, promoting ideas incompatible with European freedoms and social cohesion.

The recent non-paper by France, Austria and the Netherlands on the need to ensure respect for European values by bodies receiving European funding, as well as the report 'Unmasking the Muslim Brotherhood', show that the Muslim Brotherhood and its affiliated organisations have benefited from European and national funds, despite documented findings of promoting anti-Semitism, supporting Hamas and cultivating Muslim separatism, which highlights serious weaknesses in the control mechanisms.

In view of the above:

1. Does the Commission consider that the existing mechanisms are sufficient so that European funds are not used by entities that are linked, even indirectly, to the Muslim Brotherhood?
2. Does the Commission intend to consider uniform criteria for organisations attempting to gradually dismantle European culture through soft but subversive influence?

Submitted: 19.11.2025

**Answer given by Mr Serafin on behalf of the European Commission
(24 March 2026)**

The Commission applies robust safeguards to ensure that entities involved in activities incompatible with EU values do not receive EU financial support at any stage of an award procedure.

The Commission carries out rigorous selection processes, including different checks on applicants based on objective criteria, such as the exclusion criteria or the EU restrictive measures.

The 2024 Financial Regulation (FR) recast ⁽¹⁾ introduced an explicit exclusion ground on incitement to discrimination, hatred or violence, or similar activities contrary to EU values ⁽²⁾.

EU funded grant projects are subsequently monitored to ensure that beneficiaries respect EU values during the implementation phase, as explicitly required in the grant agreement ⁽³⁾.

Furthermore, the 2024 FR introduced the possibility to exclude or impose a financial penalty on beneficial owners and affiliated entities of the excluded entity that were involved in the misconduct of the excluded entity.

This allows further protection of the EU budget by preventing that an excluded entity could continue to participate in award procedures, through a new company or existing affiliated entities.

Based on these mechanisms, the Commission can immediately act ⁽⁴⁾ when it becomes aware of any evidence of breaches of EU values.

The Commission will ensure effective implementation, including by raising awareness, establishing an internal network to exchange information, and reinforcing processes to take account of information from Member States and other sources where it can be used to assess beneficiaries' and projects' respect for EU values.

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj/eng>.

⁽²⁾ Article 138(1)(c)(vi) of the FR requires that such misconduct negatively affects or risks affecting the performance of legal commitments.

⁽³⁾ See Article 14 of the Annotated Grant Agreement (https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/aga_en.pdf). The obligation to respect EU values is also contractually extended to other persons and entities linked to the beneficiaries, such as the affiliated entities, associated partners, subcontractors, recipients of financial support to third parties. Furthermore, measures may be taken also if persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or persons essential for the award/implementation of the grant breached EU values.

⁽⁴⁾ As part of these measures, the grant may be suspended, terminated or reduced and funds may be recovered, and the concerned entity may be excluded from receiving further EU funds in the future.

Effective protection of the EU budget also relies on Member States actively contributing information to support the Commission's efforts.

The outcome of the review of the Anti-Fraud Architecture in 2026 will strengthen oversight and accountability to ensure a more efficient protection of the EU's financial interests.
