

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-005030/25
to the Commission
Fabio De Masi (NI)
(19 December 2025)**

Subject: Euractiv

According to Euractiv, it was recently banned from the Commission's background briefings (¹).

1. What are the reasons for this ban, and who made the decision?
2. More generally, who decides which media outlets are invited to the background briefings, and on what basis?
3. What other media outlets are no longer invited, and why?

Submitted: 19.12.2025

**Answer given by President von der Leyen on behalf of the European Commission
(4 March 2026)**

The Commission regularly organises background briefings to equip journalists with a deeper understanding of particular issues or developments. Invitations to these briefings are managed by the Commission's communication department and are based on various factors.

The selection of media outlets is typically guided by criteria such as the topic relevance, geographical balance and audience reach. The invitations are sent according to a rotation approach to ensure that different media can have access to the background information shared by the Commission. The Commission's communication department has not banned any media outlet from attending background briefings.

As for the specific media outlet mentioned by the Honourable Member, it is indeed one that is regularly invited to background briefings. In addition, its representatives are regularly present at the Commission's daily briefings with the press and ask their questions.

¹ <https://www.euractiv.com/opinion/the-brief-banned-in-brussels-how-euractiv-landed-on-the-commissions-enemies-list/>.