

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000145/26
to the Commission
Sandro Gozi (Renew)
(14 January 2026)**

Subject: Allegations of trading in influence and integrity of the EU sanctions regime in Cyprus

Recent public revelations, based on a video recording and official statements by Cypriot politicians, raise serious allegations of trading in influence. They also point to links between foreign investments and financial contributions, as well as possible attempts at political interference in Cyprus' position at EU level regarding the EU sanctions regime imposed on Russian nationals.

1. Can the Commission say what position the Republic of Cyprus has taken at EU level during discussions on the possible inclusion of Andrei Kosogov on the sanctions list, and whether representations have been made in his favour?
2. Does the Commission intend to investigate whether the alleged events could have undermined the integrity, unity and credibility of the EU sanctions regime?
3. What action is it considering to ensure that Cypriot foreign investment procedures fully comply with EU law, in particular Regulation (EU) 2019/452, and are free from any political interference or conflict of interest?

Submitted: 14.1.2026

**Answer given by Ms Albuquerque on behalf of the European Commission
(7 April 2026)**

The adoption of EU restrictive measures against individuals is decided unanimously by Member States in the Council of the European Union, acting on a proposal from the High Representative. These deliberations are confidential. The positions of individual Member States are not disclosed.

The implementation and enforcement of EU sanctions fall primarily under the responsibility of Member States. The Commission's role is to monitor compliance and ensure the uniform application across the EU.

The Commission actively engages with Member States to clarify implementation practices and address any inconsistencies. It offers Member States technical and legal assistance to strengthen national frameworks and prevent circumvention.

Cyprus complies with Regulation (EU) 2019/452 ⁽¹⁾ ('EU FDI Screening Regulation'), which currently does not oblige Member States to have a mechanism to screen foreign direct investments (FDI).

The Commission welcomes that Cyprus adopted, on 14 November 2025, Law 194/2025 that establishes a framework for the control of foreign direct investments.

The EU FDI Screening Regulation is being revised. Under the political agreement reached in December 2025, Member States will be required to have a screening mechanism, and the revised Regulation will also cover investments made in the EU by foreign investors through an EU subsidiary.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 79I, 21.3.2019, pp. 1-14.