

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000429/26
to the Commission
Krzysztof Brejza (PPE)
(3 February 2026)**

Subject: EU security assessment: investigating the ‘Epstein files’ and Russian hybrid threats to institutional integrity

Recent releases of the ‘Epstein files’ by the United States Department of Justice reveal significant involvement by EU citizens, suggesting a cross-border network that threatens European institutional integrity. Evidence points to Jeffery Epstein potentially acting as a ‘wealth manager’ for Kremlin-linked interests, raising alarms regarding national security and the vulnerability of European elites to Russian hybrid threats or blackmail.

In response, Member States like Poland have established specialised analytical groups to investigate national leads and assess the scandal’s impact on state security. These revelations shift the narrative from a localised criminal case to a complex geopolitical concern involving foreign influence and the potential compromise of public trust across the EU.

1. Does the Commission plan to establish a centralised analytical group or expert body to coordinate the analysis of the ‘Epstein files’ at the EU level, particularly to assist Member States in identifying systemic risks and cross-border criminal patterns?
2. Is the Commission aware of the Russian leads identified in the recent file releases, and has it assessed whether these connections pose a threat to the security and democratic processes of the EU?
3. How does the Commission intend to support national initiatives, such as those in Poland, to ensure that the European dimension of this scandal is fully investigated and that potential victims within the EU receive justice?

Submitted: 3.2.2026

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(30 April 2026)**

While there are no plans to establish a centralised analysis of the ‘Epstein files’ at EU level, the EU has a strong legal and operational framework to support Member States in tackling complex and cross-border crime, including trafficking in human beings and child sexual exploitation.

In particular, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) ⁽¹⁾ facilitates the rapid and secure exchange of criminal intelligence across the EU and provides advanced analytical support to help national authorities identify links between suspects, financial flows and transnational criminal networks.

The Commission recalls that investigation of criminal offences is the competence of national authorities. At the operational level, the European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats (EMPACT) ⁽²⁾ platform enables Member States to coordinate investigations affecting EU security and transform separate national child sexual exploitation cases into a shared, intelligence led EU response.

The victims’ rights policy is equally high on the agenda of the Commission. The overall objective of the Victims’ Rights Directive ⁽³⁾ is to facilitate victims’ access to justice.

The recently provisionally agreed revision of the directive ⁽⁴⁾ further strengthens all victims’ rights, including rights to support and protection and victims’ access to justice.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2016/794 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2016 on the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol).

⁽²⁾ https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/internal-security/law-enforcement-cooperation/empact-fighting-crime-together_en.

⁽³⁾ Directive 2012/29/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2001/220/JHA, OJ L 315, 14.11.2012, pp. 57 — 73.

⁽⁴⁾ Proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of The Council amending Directive 2012/29/EU establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2001/220/JHA, COM/2023/424 final.