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E-000455/2026

Answer given by President von der Leyen
on behalf of the European Commission
(10.6.2026)

The question raised by the Honourable Member, received by the Commission on 24 February 2026, partly overlaps with his written question P-004435/2025, whose reply was given by the Commission on 5 February 2026. The Commission refers to its reply to the above-mentioned question concerning the charges brought against the former Commissioner for Justice.

At this stage, and as far as the Commission is aware, the allegations regarding the former Commissioner for Justice do not concern the exercise of his duties as Member of the College and notably his performance as Member of the Commission in charge of Justice.

The Commission has not conducted any internal investigations following the allegations published in the media and will not interfere in any investigations which might be carried out by the Belgian competent authorities, yet it remains ready to cooperate with the Belgian authorities where relevant.

The Commission recalls that the former Commissioner for Justice, as any other citizen, benefits from the principle of the presumption of innocence until a possible conviction by the competent judicial authorities.

The anti-money laundering and counter financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) package is a comprehensive legislative reform that was adopted in June 2024¹.

The preparation of this package involved extensive and complex consultations of the various Directorates-General of the Commission, including the Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers and culminated with a collegiate decision procedure at the level of the Commission, which naturally involved all the members of the College and their cabinets. It is therefore not possible to comment on the individual role of any specific Commissioner.

¹ https://finance.ec.europa.eu/financial-crime/anti-money-laundering-and-counteracting-financing-terrorism-eu-level_en.