

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001054/26
to the Commission
Christine Anderson (ESN)
(13 March 2026)**

Subject: Geheimdienst IV — Organisational links between the proposed Commission ‘intelligence cell’ and the European Centre for Democratic Resilience

In its reply of 6 March 2026 to Written Question E-004643/2025 ⁽¹⁾, the Commission confirmed that it is considering establishing an internal ‘intelligence cell’ intended to complement its analytical capacities.

At the same time, the Commission’s communication on the European Democracy Shield foresees the establishment of a European Centre for Democratic Resilience (ECDR), which is tasked with improving situational awareness, anticipating and detecting threats, issuing early warnings and supporting coordinated responses.

In this context:

1. Are there any planned organisational, functional or reporting links between the proposed intelligence cell and the ECDR?
2. Will both structures operate within the same Commission services or under the authority of the same Commissioner(s) or of the President’s services?
3. Can the Commission confirm whether the activities of the proposed intelligence cell or the ECDR will include threat assessments, the mapping of influence networks or the systematic analysis of actors operating in the information space?

Submitted: 13.3.2026

**Answer given by Mr McGrath on behalf of the European Commission
(5 May 2026)**

The European Centre for Democratic Resilience is a cooperation framework, under the leadership of the Commissioner responsible for democracy, justice, the rule of law and consumer protection, for exchange primarily between EU institutions, Member States and civil society to empower, protect, and promote strong and resilient democracies across the EU.

The Centre is a core component of the European Democracy Shield ⁽¹⁾, which defines a broad, whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach to strengthening democracy.

There are no planned organisational, functional or reporting links between the Centre and any intelligence structure. The Centre fully respects EU and national competences and the independence of existing structures at national and EU level.

It will be rolled out progressively, based on Member States’ voluntary participation, and on their input and needs for support and cooperation, to ensure that it delivers the best support to national authorities and jointly at EU level.

The Centre brings together expertise and resources to increase collective capacity to anticipate, detect and respond to threats to our democracies, such as foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI) and disinformation.

The Centre builds on existing networks and structures working on prevention, detection, analysis, and response to patterns of threats in the information space.

The information shared via the Centre is based on open sources. The Centre will also support capacity-building activities, including trainings. It could further support response capacity.

¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-004545-ASW_EN.html.
⁽¹⁾ JOIN(2025) 791 final.