

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001956/26
to the Commission**

Erik Kaliňák (NI), Judita Laššáková (NI)
(12 May 2026)

Subject: Is the Commission secretly preparing to repeal the Beneš Decrees? Is postwar Europe at risk of falling apart?

In the context of the recent Hungarian parliamentary elections, the issue of the Beneš Decrees of 1945-1946 has resurfaced, and the Commission and Parliament plan to address it in a special debate. This is happening despite the fact that the Beneš Decrees in Czechoslovakia, the Bierut Decrees in Poland and the AVNOJ Decrees in the former Yugoslavia were a fundamental part of the post-war order in Europe, represent historical legislation and are no longer in force today. However, the Commission is engaging in the discussion on the Beneš Decrees without offering a clear and categorical rejection of any efforts to revise them.

1. How does the Commission view these three sets of decrees, which form an integral historical part of the post-war legal framework upon which today's Europe is built?
2. Why has the Commission not categorically rejected any attempts to repeal the Beneš Decrees, and thereby any similar future efforts to challenge the Bierut or AVNOJ Decrees?
3. Could it be that the Commission perhaps plan to open a discussion on revising these decrees, which could jeopardise legal certainty, historical continuity and the stability of the post-war order throughout Europe?

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Answer given by Mr McGrath on behalf of the European Commission
(7 August 2026)

The so-called Beneš, Bierut and the Anti-Fascist Council for the National Liberation of Yugoslavia (AVNOJ) Decrees are historical acts undertaken by national authorities prior to accession to the EU in a very specific economic and social context.

The Commission ensures the respect of EU law, within the remit of its competences.
