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Answer given by Ms Kos
on behalf of the European Commission
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The Commission is closely monitoring developments in Albania as part of its EU accession process. The quality and efficiency of the judiciary, and the respect and protection of fundamental rights, including the right to property and rights of persons belonging to minorities, are crucial components of the benchmarks under Cluster 1 – Fundamentals of the accession negotiations.

To assess Albania's progress on its EU accession path, the Commission rigorously monitors all developments and continuously engages with the national authorities in all areas of the negotiations, including on the rights of persons belonging to minorities, property rights, freedom of association, access to justice and due process. All ongoing projects in Albania must comply with the applicable legal framework and with the relevant accession negotiations benchmarks. Albania is expected to ensure effective judicial follow-up in any cases of alleged violence.

The Commission will continue to engage with the national authorities to uphold the highest standards of rule of law and ensure the protection of fundamental rights.