

**Question for oral answer O-000018/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 136

Raphaël Glucksmann

on behalf of the Special Committee on foreign interference in all democratic processes in the European Union, including disinformation, and the strengthening of integrity, transparency and accountability in the European Parliament

Subject: Election integrity and resilience build-up in the run-up to the 2024 European elections

The European elections will be held in 2024 against the backdrop of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and the global conflict between our democracies and authoritarian regimes. While Europe is preparing to vote, authoritarian actors are mobilising worldwide attacks on democracies in general and on European democracies in particular. These actors aim to exploit the vulnerabilities of our open societies, undermine confidence in our institutions, destroy public discourse and, ultimately, weaken our democracies. Disinformation, information manipulation campaigns and cyber-attacks are on everyone's radar.

1. How does the Commission plan to use the tools at its disposal to combat information manipulation and disinformation in a way that is effective and swift enough to guarantee the integrity of the European elections?
2. Some of the recent proposals in this domain will take many years to implement. How will the Commission ensure that new initiatives, such as the defence of democracy package, will be able to protect the integrity of the 2024 elections?
3. How will the Commission ensure that ongoing cooperation with online platforms, including under the Code of Practice, leads to a switch from empty public promises to concrete transparency and real protection of the integrity of electoral process in all Member States?
4. How will the Commission guarantee a high level of cybersecurity for all relevant institutions in the forthcoming European elections?
5. What action will the Commission take to prevent hacking attacks in the 2024 European elections?
6. How is the Commission planning to coordinate with Member State governments to ensure the European elections are well protected against foreign interference, hybrid threats and disinformation?
7. What actions does the Commission plan to take to contribute to the coordinated, robust and overall strong resilience of the EU institutions against foreign interference in the run-up to the European elections in 2024?

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Lapses: 14.7.2023