

Question for written answer E-001856/2024

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: European aid for Georgia

On 8 November 2023, the Commission imposed conditions on Georgia, which the country must satisfy to be recognised as a candidate country. These conditions include respect for European values¹.

On 17 September 2024, the Georgian Parliament approved a bill that would restrict LGBTQI rights and significantly expand censorship.

On 26 June 2024, the Venice Commission already issued a negative opinion on the bill².

According to DG NEAR figures, Georgia receives around EUR 85 million in European funding annually.

On 12 December 2022, the Council suspended EUR 6.3 billion in European funds earmarked for Hungary under the rule of law mechanism³, following a European Parliament resolution of 8 July 2021, which stated that curtailing LGBTQI rights is contrary to European values and should have budgetary implications for the country.

1. Will the Commission suspend funds earmarked for Georgia in response to the adoption of this law?
2. If not, why is the Commission using different criteria for Hungary and Georgia?

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¹ https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/document/download/388e01b7-e283-4bc9-9d0a-5600ea49eda9_en?filename=SWD_2023_697%20Georgia%20report.pdf

² [https://www.venice.coe.int/webforms/documents/?pdf=CDL-AD\(2024\)021-e](https://www.venice.coe.int/webforms/documents/?pdf=CDL-AD(2024)021-e).

³ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2022/2506.