

Question for written answer E-002842/2024

to the Commission

Rule 144

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Subject: Social media censorship in Germany: compatibility with EU principles of freedom of expression

German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock recently called for increased social media censorship with a view to ‘protecting democracy’. She suggests tightening the rules around speech that is deemed dangerous, even if it falls under the scope of freedom of expression. This proposal raises concerns over whether such measures are compatible with Article 11 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, which guarantees freedom of expression and information.

1. In this context, is the Commission aware of the German Government’s plans to introduce such rules on social media?
2. Has it assessed the compatibility of these proposals with EU law, in particular as regards the protection of fundamental freedoms?
3. Will it take measures to ensure that the German Government respects the fundamental principles of freedom of expression?

Submitted: 10.12.2024