Question for written answer E-000044/2025 to the Commission Rule 144 Saskia Bricmont (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Definition of antisemitism

On 17 October 2024, Commission Coordinator on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life Katharina von Schnurbein addressed a meeting of Parliament's Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) on the rise of antisemitism in the EU Member States. She argued that the EU 'bases its policy on the IHRA [International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance] definition, because it reflects, also according to surveys by the FRA [European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights], what the majority of Jews in Europe regards as antisemitic' and that antisemitism related to Israel 'is the most common form' of antisemitism.

- 1. Has the Commission, including Ms von Schnurbein, taken note of the July 2024 study by Professor Stephen Miller from the Institute for Jewish Policy Research, which revealed that these two claims were not substantiated by the results of FRA surveys published in 2018 and 2024¹?
- 2. Considering that this study was published and amplified weeks before the LIBE meeting, does the Commission believe that the LIBE Committee has been misled, also in view of the Commission's explicit commitment to 'evidence-based' policymaking in the fight against antisemitism²?
- 3. What exactly did Ms von Schnurbein mean when she said that the IHRA definition was 'one aspect' in the allocation of EU funding?

Submitted: 8.1.2025

Miller, Stephen H., 'Does the IHRA working definition of antisemitism reflect the views of most European Jews? An assessment of the evidence from the 2018 survey of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)', July 2024, https://archive.jpr.org.uk/object-4216.

Miller, Stephen H., 'Do European Jews endorse the IHRA definition of anti-semitism?', 4 July 2024, https://euobserver.com/eu-and-the-world/ara3188a41.