Question for written answer E-000910/2023 to the Commission Rule 138 Costas Mavrides (S&D)

Subject: Ban on individual fund-raising initiatives in the Member States

The European Union is founded on a number principles and values relating to respect for human dignity, human rights and the rule of law embodied in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU), including philanthropy as a form of solidarity.

There is hence no justification for seeking to ban individual fund-raising initiatives to assist families in financial difficulties with loan repayments on the grounds that government benefits are being provided for the same purpose if the families in question are considered to be eligible. On the contrary, it is important that to ensure that EU values are not undermined but are allowed to prevail as an expression of care and sympathy for deprived and vulnerable families, bearing in mind the individual freedom to donate assistance enshrined in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.

In view of this:

Does the Commission consider measures by Member States to prevent individual fund-raising initiatives to assist families in financial difficulties with loan repayments to be compatible with the values enshrined in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union?

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