

**Priority question for written answer P-000039/2025  
to the Commission**  
Rule 144  
**Zala Tomašič (PPE)**

**Subject:** Assessment of the compliance of the new draft Media Act in Slovenia with European standards on freedom of expression and media independence

On 31 December, the Slovenian Government adopted a new draft Media Act. The proposed legislation transfers some of the powers of the law enforcement authorities and the judiciary to officials of the Agency for Communication Networks and Services (AKOS) or the Ministry of Culture, who will be able, at their own discretion, to impose penalties on media outlets, business owners and individuals for alleged incitement to violence, hate speech or terrorism, which is already regulated in Slovenia by the Criminal Code. This will open the door to subjective interpretation and censorship, rather than being the exclusive remit of the police, the prosecution service and the courts. The criteria for making such assessments are not clearly defined in the law. In addition, this revised law allows the government to adjust the conditions for granting state aid, which may lead to political favouritism.

I would like to know:

1. Whether the Commission considers this law to be in compliance with European standards on protecting freedom of expression?
2. How the Commission views the transfer of the powers of judicial authorities to administrative authorities without clear criteria, and whether this poses a threat to freedom of expression?
3. Whether the Commission considers that legislation enabling the government to arbitrarily adjust the conditions for granting state funding to the media respects the principle of media independence and EU state aid rules?

Submitted: 7.1.2025