

**Question for written answer E-010480/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Hugues Bayet (S&D)**

Subject: Freedom of expression and fundamental values in Hungary

Tamás Bodoky, editor-in-chief of the independent investigative website 'Átlátszó', has stated that the media have been put under the exclusive control of members of Fidesz, the majority party in the Hungarian Parliament. He added that journalists who caused ructions would be barred from the profession. This was notably the case with Mr Gergő Sáling, editor-in-chief of the Origo site.

Freedom of the press is often a reflection of the state of freedom of a society. The situation in Hungary is thus becoming increasingly worrying, with the flouting of fundamental values as laid out in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union. Moreover, ex Vice-President of the Commission Neelie Kroes has made frequent reference to the danger of authoritarianism in Hungary.

Does the Commission plan to take any action to ensure that the Member States respect fundamental values? What does it intend to do in order to achieve this? Is it not time for respect of the EU's values to be imposed?