

**Question for written answer E-012943/2015/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Temporary suspension of Hungary from the EU

For some time, Viktor Orbán's government in Hungary has been taking action and stances that seriously undermine the fundamental principles and values on which the Union is founded. Press freedom has been severely constrained as a result of the control exerted by the government over the media authority. In April 2015 the government called for a debate on the reintroduction of the death penalty, despite the fact that it runs counter to the values of the EU. More recently, we have seen how the government has resorted to strongly xenophobic language in respect of the refugee crisis and how the country's security forces have brutally repelled refugees attempting to cross the border from Serbia with tear gas. Repeated warnings from the European institutions on the deterioration of the rule of law in Hungary have fallen on deaf ears.

Given that the Commission has reaffirmed its right to take action when it considers the rule of law to be under threat in a Member State, is the Commission considering the possibility of temporarily suspending Hungary's voting rights?