Question for written answer E-000065/2017 to the Commission Rule 130 María Teresa Giménez Barbat (ALDE)

Subject: Televisió de Catalunya and ideological manipulation of children

The television network Televisió de Catalunya, which is owned by the Catalan government, announced that it would be broadcasting the Three Kings procession from the town of Vic. The organisations Asamblea Nacional Catalana and Òmnium Cultural issued a call for all the children of the town to welcome the Three Kings with lanterns bearing pro-independence symbols. These two organisations also invited children to ask the Three Kings for 2017 to bring them a Catalan republic.

A publicly owned television network was thus to be used for the ideological manipulation of children. Protecting the rights of children is a priority for the EU, as recognised in Directive 2010/13/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on audiovisual media services.

Does the Commission have any tools with which to ensure that publicly owned media in the Member States respect the rights of children?