

**Question for written answer E-002119/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
John Stuart Agnew (ENF)

Subject: CIVICUS Monitor reports

The CIVICUS Monitor¹ reports that almost half of all Member States are now failing to properly protect people's rights to form and operate civil society organisations (CSOs) and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in order to engage in peaceful protest and freely express their views.

In addition, a number of Member States are preparing to cut funding to these groups. In many cases, cuts seem to be aimed at advocacy and human rights organisations that sometimes challenge governments and expose corruption and malpractice.

Is the Commission monitoring these trends and if so, will it publish its findings?

¹ Reference: <https://monitor.civicus.org/>