Question for written answer P-008044/2014 to the Commission Rule 130 Charles Tannock (ECR)

Subject: Russian-language edition of Euronews TV

In addition to President Putin's military campaign in Ukraine, he has also fought a highly successful propaganda war on the home front. President Putin has considerable powers in this regard following a reduction in the presence of independent media outlets in Russia, which has mainly left only state providers and oligarch-owned, compliant commercial outlets.

In this climate, it appears that Euronews, of which the Russian government is a shareholder via Russia Today's holding, has also been compliant with government policy by following an overtly pro-Russian government line in its coverage of stories about the war in Ukraine.

- 1. Has the Commission considered such reports, and if so, what discussions has it had with Euronews on the subject?
- 2. How can the Commission ensure that no public money provided by the EU to Euronews is used for the purpose of supporting the Russian-language edition of Euronews for as long as there is state interference, particularly in terms of its coverage concerning the war in Ukraine?
- 3. What are the current levels of funding provided by the EU to Euronews, and how much of this directly supports its Russian-language edition?

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