Question for written answer E-001348/2019 to the Commission

Rule 130

Franz Obermayr (ENF)

Subject: Action plan against disinformation

In early December 2018, the Commission published an action plan on the EU's coordinated response to disinformation. According to media reports, the action plan is based on the Code of Practice on Disinformation, which has already been implemented and was completed with well-known online companies such as Facebook, Google and Twitter¹. The Code of Conduct countering illegal hate speech online was also completed, in 2016, with the same companies.

According to the action plan, in light of the forthcoming European Parliament elections, an EU rapid alert system will be installed by March 2019 and the budget for the European External Action Service's strategic communication will be increased to EUR 5 million². These measures will be further reinforced by the Member States with a boost to their own resources³.

- (1) How does the Commission monitor the approach of the online media companies with regard to the above-mentioned codes of practice?
- (2) Is implementation of the planned rapid alert system by March 2019 still a realistic proposition?
- (3) In the Commission's view, is there a need for each Member State to have a dedicated authority to deal with the installation of the rapid alert system?

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¹ https://de.gatestoneinstitute.org/13709/eu-auf-orwell

² https://ec.europa.eu/germany/news/20181205-aktionsplan-gegen-desinformation_de

³ http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release IP-18-6647 de.htm