

**Question for written answer E-004044/2020  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Roman Haider (ID), Georg Mayer (ID)**

**Subject:** Appearance of Commission President von der Leyen in an election campaign video

Commission President von der Leyen has appeared in a video made by the Croatian HDZ (Croatian Democratic Union), the party of Prime Minister Plenković, in which she, together with other EPP politicians, can be seen chanting the HDZ campaign slogan 'Sigurna Hrvatska!'. Ms. von der Leyen is clearly identifiable as the President of the Commission in this video, both because she is given this title and because of the location where the video was shot. However, under the Code of Conduct for Commissioners, Ms. von der Leyen has an obligation of neutrality<sup>1</sup>. Of course, this is not the first time that Ms. von der Leyen has been involved in a scandal<sup>2</sup>.

1. Does the Commission intend to hold Ms. von der Leyen to account in the light of this political scandal?
2. In the Commission's view, is there no limit to the number of mistakes that Ms. von der Leyen can afford to make?
3. Will Ms. von der Leyen be sanctioned in any way for this transgression by a European Union body?

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.deutschlandfunk.de/neutralitaetsgebot-kritik-an-von-der-leyen-wegen.1939.de.html?drn:news\\_id=1148416](https://www.deutschlandfunk.de/neutralitaetsgebot-kritik-an-von-der-leyen-wegen.1939.de.html?drn:news_id=1148416); <https://www.merkur.de/politik/kroatien-wahl-corona-von-leyen-eklat-regierung-parlament-sdp-hdz-nationalisten-spot-video-zr-13822221.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.welt.de/politik/deutschland/article210120617/Untersuchungsberichte-zur-Berateraffaere-Opposition-belastet-Ursula-von-der-Leyen.html>; <https://recherche-dresden.de/blackrock-tappt-von-der-leyen-in-die-naechste-berateraffaere/>