Question for written answer E-005592/2020 to the Commission
Rule 138
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Subject: Hate speech against LGBTI persons by Polish governmental officials

The Polish Commissioner for Children’s Rights, Mikołaj Pawlak, recently made some extremely worrying statements concerning sexuality education for young people. On 1 September 2020, he expressed, in his official capacity as Government Ombudsperson, that non-governmental organisations focused on sexuality education have ‘targeted unstable, abandoned children, and [given] them pharmacological substances to change their sex’. These declarations were made during an interview for TVN24 news channel.

Similarly, the appointment of Przemysław Czarnek as Minister of Education raises further questions given the many comments he has made concerning LGBTI persons, such as: ‘These people are not equal to normal people…Let’s protect the family from this kind of corruption, depravity and absolutely immoral behaviour’.

1. What is the Commission’s position regarding the conduct and comments of the Polish Commissioner for Children’s Rights and the recently appointed Minister of Education?

2. Does it agree that such statements actively contradict the values that governmental spokespersons (either advocating for children’s rights, including their right to health and to be free from discrimination, or in charge of education) should promote?

3. What is its position on the consistency of these statements with Council Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA1, and the Audiovisual Media Services Directive2 as regards the broadcast of such language on television?

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