

Question for written answer E-005993/2020
to the Commission
Rule 138
Anna Zalewska (ECR)

Subject: Rules on fake news

During a pandemic, the effects of any false information or lies disseminated in public and social media are felt particularly severely.

They often pose a threat to the proper functioning of many public services and cause concern and confusion to large sections of society.

Having quickly recognised the gravity of these problems, two Member States adopted regulations that resolutely combat all forms of fake news and bring serious consequences to bear on those who write or disseminate fake news. These countries were Germany, with its 'Netzwerkdurchsetzungsgesetz' of 2017, and France, with its 'Loi relative à la lutte contre la manipulation de l'information' of 2018.

1. Does the Commission see an urgent need for a uniform EU-wide act aimed at preventing the carte blanche dissemination of fake news from harming the good name of ordinary people using information generated by interest groups and from interfering with the functioning of states and their structures?
2. When will action be taken to this end?