

**Question for written answer E-006674/2020
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Harald Vilimsky (ID)

Subject: Sanctioning 'disinformation' on social media

The European Action Plan for Democracy is set to combat disinformation. This means that comments which are deemed to be conspiracy theories or deliberate misinformation will in future not be allowed to be posted and may even be subject to sanctions.

1. The right to freedom of expression is one of the fundamental rights in the EU and its Member States. What is the Commission's view of this intrusion into people's fundamental rights?
2. Determining which comments and reports are erroneous or even 'dangerous' amounts to a kind of censorship. Who will undertake this, and what criteria will be used to decide which opinions are permissible?
3. The Commission gives as its reason for this intrusion its desire to 'strengthen democracy'. How exactly is this to function, given that it will actually result in an enfeebling of democracy, with only appropriate opinions likely to be permitted?