

Question for written answer E-002860/2021
to the Commission
Rule 138
Jordi Cañas (Renew)

Subject: Reopening of infringement proceedings against Catalan law on cinema

On 26 May, the Committee on Petitions discussed Petition No 1342/2020, which concerns the closure of the infringement proceedings¹ relating to Law 20/2010 on cinema in Catalonia.

The motives for closure provided by the Commission are highly questionable, if not manifestly erroneous, since Law 20/2010 is still in force, has not been amended or repealed, and the current Government of Catalonia is threatening to implement it². This law is a clear breach of European law and it is therefore contrary to the principle of sound administration for the Commission to close the proceedings when the legal basis for such proceedings has been upheld.

Moreover, it is surprising that the Commission is using non-application of the system of penalties following the agreement reached between the sector and the authorities (the result of blackmail in the face of the threat of the application of penalties) and the supposed lack of complaints from distributors outside Spain when, in fact, these distributors have complained to the Commission³, as justification for closing the proceedings.

Therefore, in view of the unjustified closure of the file and the possibility that this could constitute maladministration by the Commission under the Treaties:

Does the Commission intend to reopen these proceedings in view of the application of Law 20/2010?

¹ Infringement proceedings No 2010/3135 and No 2010/7201.

² Agreement of the Government of Catalonia attached as a supporting document.

³ Letter sent to the Commission by the sector, attached as a supporting document.