Question for written answer E-003762/2021 to the Commission
Rule 138

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Subject: Application of infringement conditionality in the case of Hungary

The Commission has just launched infringement procedures against Hungary. The cases include the recently adopted law which prohibits or limits access to content that promotes or portrays so-called ‘divergence from self-identity corresponding to sex at birth, sex change or homosexuality’ for individuals under 18, and a disclaimer imposed on a children’s book with LGBTIQ content. Presuming that Hungary will not withdraw these laws, the Commission is expected to issue a reasoned opinion within the given time frame.

Article 97 of the Common Provisions Regulation on EU funds stipulates that payments can be suspended if there is an infringement procedure on a matter that puts the legality and regularity of expenditure at risk.

1. Does the Commission agree that there is a sufficiently direct link between the matter addressed by the infringement procedure and the expenditure at stake, in particular in the field of education?

2. Programme preparation is in progress and Hungarian spending plans falling under the CPR have not yet been adopted. Will the Commission continue with the adoption procedure for these programmes while the infringement procedure is ongoing?

3. Will the Commission apply the infringement conditionality mentioned above once the programmes have been adopted?