

**Question for written answer E-004456/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

José Ramón Bauzá Díaz (Renew)

Subject: European funding of the Euskadi-Cuba Association

The Spanish courts have recently agreed to deal with a complaint against the Euskadi-Cuba Association, following statements made on the Cubainformación platform against the chair of the NGO Prisoners Defenders, Javier Larrondo.

Cubainformación – which was set up by the Euskadi-Cuba Association’s communications department – may well have committed offences of defamation and hate speech targeting Mr Larrondo, motivated by his activities to defend human rights in Cuba. In other publications on Cubainformación, Parliament has been described as a ‘hostage’ of the far right, echoing the official propaganda of the Cuban regime.

The Euskadi-Cuba Association receives funding from the Basque Agency for Development Cooperation which, in turn, received EUR 4 million from the European Union in 2019. With that in mind:

1. Can the Commission guarantee that European funds do not end up in the hands of organisations that attack European institutions and human rights defenders?
2. What measures would the Commission take if it is established that such funding contributed to the activities of the Euskadi-Cuba Association and the Cubainformación platform, which are currently under investigation?