

**Question for written answer E-005287/2021/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Need for a coordinated EU approach to tackling disinformation, foreign interference and hybrid threats in the EU

Disinformation is a transnational threat, and no state can counter it with maximum effectiveness on its own. It takes wider EU cooperation.

Yet there is no coordinated EU-wide response on foreign interference, hybrid threats and disinformation.

1. Given the absence of a harmonised EU-level legal and regulatory framework on disinformation and considering the successful adoption of the EU cybersecurity strategy in December 2020, is the Commission envisaging proposing a directive or regulation against foreign interference, hybrid threats and disinformation in order to lay the regulatory foundation for multi-layered, cross-sectoral, resilient policies and deterrence tools, as part of better-coordinated national strategies at the Member State and EU levels?
2. Is the Commission planning to increase the resources and budget allocated to bodies and organisations tasked with monitoring, countering and raising awareness about disinformation and foreign interference?
3. While information sharing on disinformation and foreign interference between the EU and the Member States remains difficult, is the Commission envisaging designing a centralised unit to unify and harmonise all actions and responses to disinformation, by jointly involving all EU institutions and Member States, and including much-needed specific focal points at the national level?