Question for written answer E-005311/2021 to the Commission

Rule 138

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Subject: Call for further details on the communication 'European Commission Inclusive

Communication Guidelines'

According to information received, the Commission has drawn up a document setting out the criteria to be followed by its staff when drafting internal and external communications.

Stating as its goal the desire to lay the groundwork for 'inclusive communication', this document bans the use of male pronouns as predefined reference pronouns, the use of courtesy titles such as 'Mr' and 'Mrs', alongside a lengthy list of common expressions that are normally taught in all European schools, which are apparently inappropriate with a view to ensuring the implementation of 'gender neutrality'.

No less importantly, through this communication, the Commission is calling on its employees to avoid the use of expressions which evoke the Christmas tradition, as they might upset the feelings of those who are not of the Christian faith.

In view of this, can the Commission say:

- 1. whether it is not concerned that the approach taken in the above-mentioned document might lead to an improper perception of the concept of inclusivity;
- 2. whether it does not believe that banning the use of expressions linked to the Christian tradition might be seen as an attempt to disavow the cultural roots that define the European way of life?