

**Question for written answer E-005396/2021/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Attack on freedom of the press in the Spanish Congress of Deputies

On 1 December 2021, PSOE and Unidas Podemos, as well as their parliamentary allies, sent a joint letter to the General Secretariat of the Congress of Deputies calling for the expulsion of accredited journalists who, in their view, 'ruin the cordial atmosphere' at press conferences.

In doing so, these parties are clearly attempting to silence, in the parliament, journalists who in the course of their professional duties put uncomfortable questions to them. Their demand flagrantly violates the right to freedom of the press enshrined in Article 20 of the Spanish Constitution and Article 11 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

In the light of the above, we should like to ask the following questions:

1. What is the Commission's assessment of this attempt by those parties to trammel the right to freedom of the press in the Congress of Deputies?
2. What steps will the Commission take to ensure that Spanish journalists are able to do their jobs properly and exercise their constitutional rights?