

**Question for written answer E-000116/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Giorgos Georgiou (The Left)

Subject: Procedure for the appointment and dismissal of the president of the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation and measures to ensure transparency and pluralism in this sector

The Commission report of 30 September 2020 on the rule of law in Cyprus flagged up a degree of risk to the effective independence of the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation 'due to concerns about the selection criteria used for the appointment of the members of the authority by the Government, independence in practice as well as issues of transparency and accountability'.

However, the report says nothing at all about the process of appointing the president and the members of the corporation. Under Cypriot legislation (Law on the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation - KEF.300A), the corporation (foundation) consists of no more than nine members, including the president, appointed by the Council of Ministers. In addition, the Council of Ministers may, at any time, remove the president or any other member of the foundation without giving reasons.

In the light of this,

1. What view does the Commission take of the procedure for appointing and dismissing the president of the broadcasting corporation, given the risk of undermining its operational independence and its commitment to ensuring pluralism?
2. What is being done to ensure compliance with Directive (EU) 2018/1808 and, in particular, transparent and non-discriminatory procedures, in order to guarantee the required degree of independence?