

**Question for written answer E-000311/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Christine Anderson (ID)**

Subject: Police violence in the European Union and lack of denunciation by the Commission

In an answer to a question, it is stated that the application of the right to demonstrate and measures taken by national authorities, including police officers, for the purpose of maintaining law and order and safeguarding internal security, inclusive of those taken on grounds of public policy, fall within the competence of the autonomous and sovereign Member States. It is also stated that the Commission condemns any use of violence during demonstrations and that if the law enforcement authorities must use force, it must always be proportionate and controlled. The Member States also have exclusive competence to adopt and apply rules governing the exercise of the right to freedom of assembly and the holding of demonstrations, including any sanctions for infringements. It is therefore not the Commission's task to deal with this matter.

Ursula von der Leyen has criticised the violence in Czechia.

Water cannons have been used against demonstrators during demonstrations in Germany.

A member of the German Bundestag was knocked to the ground as a result of police violence on the edge of a demonstration.

1. Why does the Commission not denounce police violence during demonstrations in Germany, yet it does in the case of the Czech Republic, for example?
2. What degree of force is necessary for the Commission to condemn police violence in the Member States?