

Question for written answer E-001374/2022

to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Rule 138

Markéta Gregorová (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Mechanism against malign disinformation actors

In his speech on 8 March 2022 at Parliament, the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy introduced a new mechanism against disinformation: 'To be able to respond equally in a quick and decisive manner in the future, I will propose a new mechanism that will allow us to sanction those malign disinformation actors. This will be part of a broader toolbox that we are currently working on, to further enhance our capacity to act.'¹

1. What definition of disinformation will be used in the proposed mechanism that is sufficiently large in scope, yet also complies with fundamental human rights, particularly the freedom of expression?
2. What safeguards, appeals or other measures within the new mechanism will ensure the respect of those rights?
3. How will this mechanism extend our current sanctions regime and what will be its legal basis?

¹ https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/112403/disinformation-speech-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-ep-debate_en