Question for written answer E-004085/2022 to the Commission Rule 138 Jadwiga Wiśniewska (ECR)

Subject: The Commission's costly promotional activities

The Commission's foreign aid department has spent a total of EUR 387 000 to develop a Metaverse platform to promote the Global Gateway initiative. On 29 November 2022, the Commission organised an online event on Metaverse with only a few participants.

At a time of crisis, when the EU institutions – including the Commission – are seeking to make cuts and savings, this kind of project raises serious doubts about the legitimacy of the measures taken.

In view of the above:

- 1. Is the Commission monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of spending, with particular reference to platforms such as Metaverse?
- 2. Does the Commission carry out an ex-ante analysis when earmarking funds for such costly initiatives?
- 3. Has the Commission carried out similar initiatives before, and what was their total budget?

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