

**Question for written answer E-001373/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Threats to public funding for the 'Ligue des droits de l'homme'

Since 1898, the 'Ligue des droits de l'homme' (LDH) has defended human rights and the rule of law, values on which the European Union was founded. When there are demonstrations, such as those against pension reform or those held at Sainte-Soline, the LDH does a vital job protecting the freedom to protest and looking out for police violence. At EU level, the LDH is mainly involved by contributing to the annual rule of law report.

The French Government has made serious threats to the LDH, which have been denounced by France's Defender of Rights. On 5 April 2023, the French Minister of the Interior questioned the legitimacy of the subsidies the association receives from the French State and local authorities. On 12 April 2023, the French Prime Minister sought to publicly discredit the LDH by accusing it of 'ambiguities regarding radical Islamism'.

The Commission regularly aligns itself with the rule of law when associations that defend EU values are targeted by the governments of Member States.

1. Is the Commission concerned about the threats to public funding for the LDH?
2. Would it consider launching an infringement procedure against France if there were suspicions of a serious violation of the rule of law?

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