

**Question for written answer E-001374/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Attacks by the French Government against several human rights and environmental organisations

The French Interior Minister, Gérald Darmanin, recently singled out several human rights and environmental organisations for attacks.

On 28 March, he announced his intention to dissolve the collective 'Les Soulèvements de la Terre', which organises campaigns and activities in defence of the environment. Freedom of assembly and association is enshrined in Article 12 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU.

On 5 April, in the Senate, Mr Darmanin threatened to cut subsidies to the 'Ligue des droits de l'homme', an organisation which defends human rights and equality, founding values of the Union.

The presence of civil society organisations and their independence are essential for the proper functioning of European democracies. In line with this principle, the European Union has taken a stand against Member States which, by curtailing freedom of association or depriving such organisations of income, contribute to their criminalisation. Can the Commission therefore say:

1. Whether it is aware of this state of affairs in France?
2. Whether it believes there is a risk of a serious breach of EU values?
3. Would it consider launching an infringement procedure if there are suspicions that France is violating EU law?

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