

**Question for written answer E-001805/2023/rev.1  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Tineke Strik** (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Rule of Law conditionality in the IPA III Regulation

Regulation (EU) 2021/1529 establishing the Instrument for Pre-Accession assistance (IPA III) obliges the Commission to ensure that clear monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are in place in order to measure progress or regression in accession countries on the key objectives of the Regulation, with a focus on fundamentals such as rule of law and democracy. Article 7(5) stipulates that the Commission should develop indicators to measure progress. The indicators used by the Commission are included in the IPA programming framework. If there is significant regression or persistent lack of progress on these indicators by a beneficiary, the scope and intensity of assistance has to be modulated accordingly.

1. Can the Commission specify the source of and precise method for calculating the values of the indicators in the IPA programming framework?
2. Will the Commission report in writing to the Parliament and Council on progress on the indicators in 2023 (the milestone year mentioned in the IPA programming framework)?
3. Can the Commission specify per beneficiary whether and how it has modulated assistance on the basis of progress or regression on the aforementioned indicators?

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