

**Question for written answer E-003379/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Hearing of the journalist Sigfrido Ranucci in the Parliamentary Committee for the General Orientation and Supervision of Radio and Television Services

On 7 November 2023, the Italian Parliamentary Committee for the General Orientation and Supervision of Radio and Television Services summoned Sigfrido Ranucci, a journalist and the presenter of the RAI programme REPORT, to a hearing. This Committee¹ has a steering function and it is not common practice to summon individual journalists to hearings. During the hearing, the journalist had to clarify how and why investigations are carried out by the REPORT newsroom.

The journalist declared that he had always respected his editorial mandate and the 'objective criteria of quality, reliability and pluralism'. A summons, initiated by the governing majority, has the flavour of intimidation aimed at limiting the independence of an authoritative newsroom like REPORT, which has been active for 27 years.

Can the Commission therefore answer the following questions:

1. Is the Commission aware of this case?
2. In the light of the proposal for a Media Freedom Act², how does the Commission view the summoning of a journalist to a hearing before a political committee? What measures does it intend to take to prevent such violations of media freedom and pluralism?

Submitted: 16.11.2023

¹ https://www.camera.it/leg19/99?shadow_organo_parlamentare=3801.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52022PC0457>.