

**Question for written answer E-000193/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Spanish Government attacks on the judiciary

Spain's third deputy prime minister, Teresa Ribera, has hit out at judge Manuel García Castellón on public television, in a clear example of power attacking the judiciary. The judge is following a terrorism case involving fugitive Catalan leader Carles Puigdemont.

The judiciary has come out in defence of the judge and judicial independence, while judges' associations, along with the General Council of the Judiciary itself, have said that the separation of powers is 'seriously, critically under threat'.

What is the Commission waiting for to implement the rule of law control mechanism in order to protect Spanish judges from constant populist and partisan attacks by the Catalan Regional Government and the Spanish Government?

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