

**Question for written answer E-000203/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Kathleen Van Brempt (S&D)

Subject: Legislation on national sovereignty in Hungary

On 12 December 2023, Hungary introduced a law to protect national sovereignty. It provides for the establishment of a special competent body to monitor, assess and combat possible interference by foreign actors in national elections. That body would be vested with overriding powers, allowing no form of appeal against decisions of the Office for the Defence of Sovereignty.

Several civil society organisations, as well as the Council of Europe's Commissioner for Human Rights, fear that this law poses a 'risk to human rights'.

Accordingly:

1. Is the Commission aware of this legislation and, if so, how does it assess its potential impact on freedom of expression, freedom of the press and freedom of association in Hungary?
2. Does this law violate EU law and, if it does, what action can the Commission take?

Submitted: 24.1.2024