

**Question for oral answer O-000076/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 136

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Subject: Alleged conflicts of interest and influence-trafficking by judges of the Court of Justice of the European Union and the Commission

A recent French media publication¹ reported on alleged conflicts of interest and influence trafficking by judges of the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) – including its president, Judge Koen Lenaerts, and prominent EU officials associated with the European People's Party (EPP).

The publication includes the following names in relation to the scandal: Johannes Hahn, Jean-Claude Juncker, Jyrki Katainen, Michel Barnier, Barbara Feldman, Koen Lenaerts, Judge Quinn, Helga Berger, Alexandra Sacha Prechal, Nils Wahl.

The EPP-dominated Commission has relied on the CJEU's rulings in its politically motivated decisions for rule of law-related investigations against Poland and Hungary. Furthermore, both the Commission and the CJEU have been increasingly critical in their assessments of corruption in countries such as Bulgaria, Romania and Slovenia.

Given the foregoing, were any CJEU judges mentioned in the publication involved in any CJEU rulings related to rule of law investigations against Poland and/or Hungary? If so, which particular rulings were they involved in, and which of those rulings served as the basis for the Commission's decision to continue the so-called rule of law mechanism against Poland and Hungary?

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Lapses: 11.3.2022

¹ https://www.liberation.fr/international/europe/dans-les-hautes-spheres-de-lunion-europeenne-des-commissaires-et-des-juges-a-lethique-en-toc-20211201_63AW5LPZPNE23NNCMADOXNSGEM/