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

Rule 136

Witold Jan Waszczykowski (ECR), Ivan Vilibor Sinčić (NI), Francesca Donato (NI), Bogdan Rzońca (ECR), Anna Zalewska (ECR), Ryszard Czarnecki (ECR), Kosma Złotowski (ECR), Elżbieta Kruk (ECR), Patryk Jaki (ECR), Elżbieta Rafalska (ECR), Jérôme Rivière (ID), Beata Mazurek (ECR), Ryszard Antoni Legutko (ECR), Maximilian Krah (ID), Christine Anderson (ID), Grzegorz Tobiszowski (ECR), Beata Szydło (ECR), Emmanouil Frangos (ECR), Jorge Buxadé Villalba (ECR), Beata Kempa (ECR), Joachim Stanisław Brudziński (ECR), Ioannis Lagos (NI), Anna Fotyga (ECR), Małgorzata Krier (ECR), Jacek Saryusz-Wolski (ECR), Ladislav Ilčič (ECR), Hermann Tertsch (ECR), Adam Bielan (ECR), Angel Dzhambazki (ECR), Andrey Slabakov (ECR), Gunnar Beck (ID), Margarita de la Pisa Carrión (ECR), Sergio Beriato (ECR), Zbigniew Kuźniuk (ECR), Valdemar Tomaševski (ECR), Carlo Fidanza (ECR), Gilles Lebreton (ID), Guido Reil (ID), France Jamet (ID), Tom Vandendriessche (ID), Dorien Rookmaker (ECR), Joachim Kuhs (ID), Cristian Terheş (ECR), Andżelika Anna Możdżanowska (ECR), Virginie Joron (ID), Sylvia Limmer (ID), Izabela-Helena Kloc (ECR), Tamás Deutsch (NI), Enikő Győri (NI), Edina Tóth (NI), Balázs Hidvéghi (NI), Andrea Bocskor (NI), Andor Deli (NI), Kinga Gál (NI), András Gyürk (NI), Adám Kósa (NI), Ernő Schaller-Baross (NI), László Trócsányi (NI)

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?

Submitted: 10.12.2021

Lapses: 11.3.2022

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