Question for oral answer O-000026/2023 to the Council Rule 136 Bert-Jan Ruissen on behalf of the ECR Group

Subject: 10th anniversary of the EU Guidelines on Freedom of Religion or Belief

On 24 June 2023, 10 years will have gone by since the Council adopted the Guidelines on the promotion and protection of freedom of religion or belief. Article 70 of the Guidelines mentions that 'COHOM will evaluate the implementation of these guidelines after a period of three years', and Article 71 states that 'regular exchanges of views will be held with the relevant committees, sub committees and working groups of the European Parliament on the implementation, evaluation and review of the guidelines'.

- 1. Why has there been no public evaluation report on the implementation of the guidelines, in spite of 10 years having passed since their adoption?
- 2. What steps is the Council taking to ensure the implementation of the guidelines?
- 3. What actions is the Council taking to ensure regular exchanges of views on this matter with Parliament and with the Special Envoy for the promotion of freedom of religion or belief outside the EU?

Submitted: 11.5.2023

Lapses: 12.8.2023