Priority question for written answer P-003327/2023 to the Commission

Rule 138

Dino Giarrusso (NI)

Subject: Government interference in the freedom of public media in Italy

Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights (freedom of expression) states that 'Everyone has the right to freedom of expression. This right shall include freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas without interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers.'

In October 2023, Parliament set out its position on the European Media Freedom Act and the new rules to protect media plurality and independence in the EU, prohibiting all forms of interference in editorial decisions, making media ownership more transparent and helping to ensure adequate funding for media.

This EU law therefore requires the Member States to ensure media plurality and protect their independence from government, political, economic or private interference.

In view of this:

- 1. Can the Commission say whether the decision to ask the journalist Sigfrido Ranucci, the host of 'Report', a RAI3 programme, to appear before the RAI Supervisory Board, and the accusatory and derisive attitude of Senator Gasparri constitute a breach of these recently adopted measures?
- 2. Will it take action on this matter in accordance with the EU law that has just been adopted in the European Parliament?

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