

**Priority question for written answer P-000095/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Violation of the rule of law by the new Polish Government and the Commission's silence

On 20 December 2023, the new Polish Government forcibly took over the public media. They fired board members and appointed their own people, brutally violating the Constitution and Polish law. They sent thugs to the headquarters of the public television, used physical violence to remove employees and took a public television channel off the air.

While the Commission has been vocal about the rule of law and media freedom in the case of Hungary, it is now completely silent. This silence suggests the application of double standards by the Commission on rule of law matters. We can easily imagine what would happen if all this had taken place in Budapest, under Prime Minister Orbán.

1. Does the Commission consider that the forcible takeover of public media, bypassing the appropriate legal procedures under national law, is compatible with the rule of law and respects media freedom and plurality?
2. How will the Commission ensure that respect for the rule of law is measured by the same standards in all Member States, irrespective of the government and its political positions?

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