

**Priority question for written answer P-000182/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Need for EU action against racism in football

Racist incidents are unfortunately becoming more and more frequent across Europe. A serious case occurred in Udine in Italy this weekend, when AC Milan's goalkeeper Mike Maignan flagged that he was being subjected to verbal and psychological abuse by opposition fans. He stressed that anyone who remains silent in the face of these forms of racism is complicit and called on the authorities to act.

The prevailing attitude that allows such behaviour is a systemic issue requiring an urgent, joint response at EU level.

Racism exists in many European countries but is not always faced with the same reaction: while in some Member States players, clubs and fans actively take a stand against racism, identifying and sanctioning perpetrators, in other countries there seems to be a lack of capacity to fully understand the problem and take effective action.

It is important to stress that the issue has deep cultural roots and that change must therefore start with investment in education at an early age.

In the light of the above:

1. Is the Commission concerned about this phenomenon?
2. What action will it take in cooperation with international football associations to combat the regularly occurring racist incidents in stadiums?

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