



Brussels, 12.05.2025

Ms Ursula von der Leyen,
President of the European Commission,

Dear Madam President,

We, the undersigned Members of the European Parliament, are writing to you regarding a growing and serious problem with the way in which the European Commission responds to written questions from Members of the European Parliament.

This concerns both the lengthy delays in providing answers and the evasive nature of the responses, which frequently fail to address the core issues raised and, at times, appear to completely miss the point.

According to Article 144 of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament and Article 230 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), the Commission is obliged to answer questions from Members of the European Parliament within a reasonable period of time.

The European Parliament has adopted the practice of responding within six weeks of the question being registered. However, it is regrettable that this deadline is frequently exceeded, with responses being provided several months after the stipulated period or not at all.

This lack of institutional discipline constitutes a significant breach of the principle of loyal interinstitutional cooperation and significantly hinders Members in the effective exercise of their mandate.

Written questions represent a fundamental instrument of parliamentary oversight, enabling the political control of the Commission's activities. They are intended not only to obtain information, but also to enforce transparency and accountability of the EU executive body.

However, even in cases where responses are formally provided on time, their content often falls short of expectations.

Increasingly, we are dealing with vague responses that merely repeat the Commission's public statements, providing no new information and making no reference to specific questions



contained in the interpellation. On occasion, these responses appear to disregard the core issue, instead focusing on peripheral or irrelevant matters.

This practice undermines the procedure of submitting written questions and erodes trust between institutions, weakening the democratic legitimacy of the legislative and executive processes in the European Union.

The European Parliament, as the representative of the citizens of the Union, has the right to expect reliable, timely and substantive answers to the questions we address to the Commission on its behalf.

We therefore call on you, Madam President, to take urgent corrective action to restore timely discipline and ensure an adequate level of substance in the answers provided.

Members of Parliament expect their questions to be taken seriously, not as a bureaucratic formality that can be completed without any real commitment.

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Axinia Adrian-George MEP

Bartulica Stephen Nikola MEP

Bay Nicolas MEP

Bielan Adam MEP

Bocheński Tobiasz MEP

Borrás Pabón Mireia MEP

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Schaller-Baross Ernő MEP

Schnurrbusch Volker MEP

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