

Dear Roos,

Thank you for your patience. Please find below our replies, which you can attribute to “a Commission spokesperson”. I hope that you will find these helpful still!

We have no comment on any such research findings.

Democracy is a fundamental value of the EU. The Commission has taken a pro-active approach to promoting and safeguarding democracy and democratic resilience in the EU. Citizens’ right to seek and receive information lies at the heart of this approach. They should be able to form their own opinions in a public space where a plurality of views can be expressed, where they have a right to disagree and where they can take part in elections which are free from interference, whether foreign or domestic.

Fostering democratic resilience in our societies, as well as citizen’s democratic engagement, and supporting Member States in their capacities to ensure free and fair elections will be key objectives under the forthcoming European Democracy Shield initiative. Strengthening our collective ability to detect, analyse and proactively counter both domestic and external threats to democracy will be an important part. The Democracy Shield will also aim to strengthen democratic frameworks and checks and balances, the integrity and fairness of electoral processes and to better counter disinformation and foreign information manipulation and interference.

For other actions on the matter, we would point you also to the Regulation on Transparency and Targeting of political advertising, which will enter into application in October 2025, or the proposed Directive on interest representation carried out on behalf of third countries support transparency and accountability of activities impacting the public debate.

As regards the European Parliament’s Committee on the European Democracy Shield, we would invite you to contact the European Parliament directly for your questions related to its work.

Best regards,

Press Officer for Democracy, Justice, and the Rule of Law

**** The information in this email cannot be quoted in my name ****



European Commission

Directorate-General for Communication

Spokesperson’s Service