



President of the European Parliament
Brussels, Belgium
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19 January 2023

Subject: Request to withdraw accreditation of radical ultraconservative anti-abortion lobbyists with transnational links in European Parliament premises

Dear Madame President,

I would like to thank you for your reply on 4 July 2022 concerning the request to withdraw access to the European Parliament premises for extremist anti-abortion organisations.

In your letter, you kindly asked me to provide you with more information on the specific organisations that I refer to in my letter of 30 June 2022, in order for the Secretariat of the Transparency Register and Parliament's services to investigate further and take the necessary action. I thank you for following up on this request, and I would hereby like to provide you with the information you need to take further action.

In light of the recent developments regarding the highly undemocratic assertion of foreign influence in the European Parliament, this request to withdraw accreditation of extremist radical conservative organisation in Parliament premises takes on an added sense of urgency. It would be extremely disappointing if the new reforms regarding transparency in the Parliament would not take into account the acute danger posed by undemocratic and extremist foreign-funded ideology spread in the European Parliament. It is particularly worrisome when there are staff within the Parliament connected to these same organisations.

We agree that the European Parliament is a pluralistic democratic institution, and as MEPs and co-legislators, we are responsible for creating policies that serve all our European citizens and protect their human rights. Interaction with representative organisations and civil society is our right and duty as democratically elected representatives. However, certain organisations are actively damaging the reputation of the Register, through their subversion of democratic and citizens' rights funded by foreign actors, and as such I argue they do not observe the code of conduct guiding our institution.

In this letter, I would like to ask for a thorough investigation, **to be concluded within three months of the reception of this letter**, in order to determine whether there is foreign influence on European democratic citizens' rights by organisations registered in the Transparency Register.

It is with this in mind that the European Parliament has the duty to protect this pluralistic democratic space and must critically reassess the organisations that have access to European Parliament premises, and bar their access to the Parliament premises if they are spreading undemocratic ideology funded by foreign actors.

Below, I will give a non-exhaustive list of specific organisations I would like to request additional investigation by Parliament services, in order to determine whether they ought to have access to Parliament premises. All of these organisations are allegedly part of transnational networks that aim to roll back on fundamental citizens' rights, such as LGBTI+ rights and sexual and reproductive health and rights, specifically abortion. We must especially

be wary of these alleged transnational links, with rumoured ultraconservative American and/or Russian linkages, all of which may try to exert foreign influence in the EU to curtail the rights of European citizens.

I would like to request an investigation into specifically the following organisations:

European Centre for Law and Justice (ECLJ)

Identification number in register: 359785447255-67

and

The Alliance Defending Freedom International (ADF International)

Identification number in register: 69403354038-78

The European Centre for Law and Justice (ECLJ) and the Alliance Defending Freedom International (ADFI) are regional offshoots of the American Centre for Law and Justice (ACLJ). We believe that both organisations are active in spreading misinformation about legislation that protect women and the LGBTQI+ community. Think specifically of the campaigns against the ratification of the Istanbul Convention, or activities at the European Court of Human rights, where they have participated in cases against the rights of transgender people and support discrimination against same-sex couples seeking to adopt. The ECLJ frequently speaks out against abortion, and it has been alleged that it is a part of an American effort to expand anti-abortion activism in the EU.

It is almost fully sponsored by the American Center for Law and Justice (€923,900 of its €924,300 total budget), and as such, it would be helpful if the Parliament services would research whether this is a case of foreign third-country influence on the EU.

For ADF International, it is unclear how much of their €9,488,905 budget comes from foreign donors seeking influence within the European Parliament. It would be helpful if this were investigated, in order to determine whether there is undue foreign interference at work.

Fondation Jérôme Lejeune

Identification number in register: 879970415784-92

This ultraconservative anti-abortion organisation formalised the European anti-abortion *One of Us* association. In an open letter in 2017, approximately 150 French doctors and researchers have spoken out against this organisation and their positions. They have an off-shoot foundation based in the United States, registered as JEROME LEJEUNE FOUNDATION USA, and as such have demonstrated transnational ties. It is imperative to know exactly what the extent of their foreign funding is, as this foundation has been alleged to have targeted voters on Facebook to spread anti-abortion messaging during the 2018 abortion referendum in Ireland, and as such has played a role in the further extreme polarisation in European Member States. It is unclear how much of their €14,248,678 are from foreign donations, and therefore investigation should be done to determine whether there is foreign influence on European Union legislation on citizens' rights.

Instytut na rzecz Kultury Prawnej Ordo Iuris (Ordo Iuris)

Identification number in register: 206499215012-94

Ordo Iuris is an organisation we are familiar with in the European Parliament due to their consistent communication on developments regarding abortion rights such as their staunch opposition campaign to our Parliament's Matic report. It is allegedly an offshoot of the transnational movement Tradition, Family and Property that sees its base in Brazil. Ordo Iuris has been involved with campaigns regarding the 2016 de facto abortion ban in Poland and the

“LGBTQI+ free zones”. Of its total €1,727,587 budget, it is unclear what is coming from foreign influence and as such should be investigated in order to determine whether there is undue foreign influence on European policy making at play.

World Youth Alliance Europe (WYA-Europe)

Identification number in register: 761301733102-03

The World Youth Alliance Europe is the European office of the New York-founded World Youth Alliance, which emphasizes human dignity ‘from conception’ until ‘natural death’. This organisation campaigns for the legal recognition of only the mother and father as parents and with this actively dismisses the rights of parents that do not conform to this heteronormative conservative construct. The organisation further opposes, amongst others, abortion, contraception, and sex education for youth. This organisation receives €133,949 of its total €225,746 funding from the American World Youth Alliance, and as such, should be investigated for undue foreign influence on European policymaking.

Yours sincerely,

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Irène Tolleret, RENEW Europe

Olivier Chastel, RENEW Europe

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Aurore Lalucq, S&D

Helmut Scholz, the Left

Marie Toussaint, Greens/EFA

María Eugenia Rodríguez Palop, the Left

Vera Tax, S&D

Kim van Sparrentak, Greens/EFA

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Leila Chaibi, the Left

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Manon Aubry, the Left

Anne-Sophie Pelletier, the Left

Markéta Gregorová, Greens/EFA

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Lina Galvez, S&D

Anja Hazekamp, the Left

Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield, Greens/EFA

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