



Brussels, 06/05/2026

Dear President Metsola,

We are writing to once again express our shock and condemnation of recent incidences of hate speech in the Plenary, this time during the debate on “Roma Inclusion, Equality & Fundamental Rights: Delivering on EU values”, during the sitting on the 29th April.

During the debate Ms Afroditi Latinopoulou (PfE) used highly offensive language, using the derogatory and racial slur “gypsies”, stereotyping Roma as criminals and drug users, and spouting blatant islamophobia.

Mr Milan Mazurek MEP (ESN) used language and framing that generalises and negatively characterises Roma people as a group, denies systemic discrimination against minorities, and portrays support for Europeans belonging to ethnic minorities as illegitimate.

Once again, such speech is a clear incitement to hate and racism, and amount to the **collective stigmatisation of an ethnic Group**. It constitutes **racist, xenophobic and hateful speech**, incompatible with the principles of human dignity, equality and non-discrimination that underpin the work of the European Parliament. We call for strong action to sanction such speeches, which show an increasingly concerning trend towards a normalisation and banalisation of hate speech.

As we have previously pointed out, since the beginning of this mandate we have been watching with growing unease the increase in polarising and violent statements from the far-right. Incidents of this type have been numerous in the last months, and without a strong reaction they are set to continue. We urge you, President, to take immediate and forceful action to condemn such behaviour and sanction the individuals responsible on the basis of Rules 10 and 11 of our RoP.

We also recall that **Rule 182** provides for immediate measures by the President in the event of a breach of Rule 10(3) or (4), including calling a Member to order, withdrawing the floor, or taking further disciplinary steps. We note that, despite the seriousness of the remarks made, **no such measures appear to have been taken during the sitting**.



In light of the above, we respectfully request that you:

- **Undertake a formal assessment** of the remarks under Rule 10(4) and related provisions;
- **Determine and apply appropriate sanctions** in accordance with Rule 183 in the event of a confirmed breach;
- **Clarify the application of Rule 182 in this instance**, in particular with regard to the absence of immediate measures during the debate;
- **Issue a clear and public reminder** to all Members that racist, xenophobic and hateful speech has no place in parliamentary debates;
- **Take concrete preventive measures** to ensure that such incidents do not recur, including strengthening awareness, guidance and enforcement of the applicable rules.

A failure to act decisively in this instance would risk undermining the credibility of the European Parliament as a defender of fundamental rights and equality.

We remain at your disposal to provide any further information required and would appreciate being informed of the follow-up given to this matter.

Kind regards,

Terry Reintke and Bas Eickhout
Co-Chairs of the Greens/EFA Group

Iratxe García Pérez
Chair of the S&D Group

Valérie Hayer
Chair of the Renew Group

Manon Aubry and Martin Schirdewan
Co-Chairs of The Left Group