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Compatibility of national defamation legislation with the European Convention on Human Rights

Written question No. 677 to the Committee of Ministers

by Mr Michael McNAMARA, Ireland, Socialist Group

Mr Michael McNamara,

To ask the Committee of Ministers,

If legislation or practice whereby a member state provides legal assistance to office holders or civil servants within that state who claim they were defamed in the performance of their role, where there is no corresponding legal assistance provided to defendants, is compatible with its recommendations and the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights on Articles 6 and 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights and whether this practice is widespread among member states.

