

**Question for written answer
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Per Clausen (The Left)

Subject: Official EU-condemnation of Elon Musk's gesture at the inauguration of Donald Trump

On 20th January, Elon Musk advisor to the President of the United States, performed what is widely regarded as a Nazi salute, not once but twice, to a worldwide audience of millions of people.

As the German outlet Zeit put it: Ein Hitlergruß ist ein Hitlergruß ist ein Hitlergruß[1], while professor Ruth Ben-Ghiat, said: "It was a Nazi salute and a very belligerent one too." [2] Israeli newspaper Haaretz described it as a "fascist salute most commonly associated with Nazi Germany" [3] while Jewish leaders have decried the incident as highly disconcerting. [4]

In this regard, can you please answer:

1. What official reaction does the European Commission have to the gesture of Mr. Musk?
2. Considering Mr. Musk's history of spreading anti-Semitic, white supremacist and far-right statements, and trying to influence European Politics, would you not agree a clear official condemnation of making such gestures in public is needed?
3. Does the European Commission agree with the many people who clearly identified it as a Nazi-salute, and if not, what is that assessment built on?

[1] Ein Hitlergruß ist ein Hitlergruß ist ein Hitlergruß

[2] <https://x.com/ruthbenghiat/status/1881460628164120641>

[3] <https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/haaretz-today/2025-01-21/ty-article/.highlight/musks-fascist-salute-u-s-jewish-establishment-failed-its-first-test-with-trump-2-0/00000194-89d8-dee1-aff7-ebdf08660000>

[4] <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2025/jan/21/the-gesture-speaks-for-itself-germans-divided-over-musks-apparent-nazi-salute>

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