## Jordi Solé warns not to take for granted the European values.

EFA President Jordi Solé intervened in the State of the union debate, appealing to the chamber not to take for granted the "European values" inside the European Union.

Jordi Solé, MEP, applauded the response and measures implemented to aid in the war against Ukraine. Solé, nevertheless, appealed to the members to assume the state of democracy and freedom in their own countries. "We rightly decided to stand with the Ukrainian people in the face of this criminal aggression. We did what we had to do. And we justified it with the argument that we had to be with those defending democracy, freedom and ultimately, what we like to call "European values". Solé said.

As a victim of PEGASUS, MEP Jordi Solé highlighted the concerning state of the rule of law, he mentioned how several member states present in the chamber have been using spy software on its citizens and political leaders and demanded more political commitment for finding solutions.

"When in some member states we are spied on by hacking our phones, as has happened to me and other colleagues in this parliament, we have a serious problem. When political and judicial abuses committed in member states must be amended by international organisations, we have a problem." EFA Group President Solé stated.

This comes after Ursula Von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, announced that the Commission will update the current legislative framework for "fighting corruption."

"It is my Commission's duty and the most noble role to protect the rule of law, so let me assure you — we will keep insisting on judicial independence, and we will make sure that we protect our budget through the conditionality mechanism." Von der Leyen said.

Jordi Solé MEP addressed the President of the European Commission, asking for a bigger commitment to

protect the citizens' fundamental rights. "I kindly ask you, Madame Von der Leyen more commitment and more courage to protect, defend and improve the state of democracy and the respect for fundamental rights in our Union."

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