

Question for written answer E-001318/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Louis Aliot (NI)

Subject: Integration mechanisms for settled nomadic populations

A large number of financial aid schemes for the integration of Roma have been set up by the Commission, particularly since the EU's eastward enlargement and the entry of some East European countries into the Schengen area.

However, there is a problem, little known and indeed ignored by our European authorities, with the integration of settled nomadic populations. A number of regrettable instances have come to light. For example in the South of France whole areas of some towns have become centres of poverty, housing insecurity, crime, drug trafficking in broad daylight and an unemployment rate of up to 80%.

Local authorities have the power to stem these problems, but are not necessarily pulling the right levers to do so, and in some cases are even unscrupulously exploiting these concentrations of vulnerable people for electoral patronage purposes.

I should therefore like to ask the following questions:

What solutions is the Commission proposing with a view to improving such situations?

What mechanisms are in force to improve the assimilation of these settled nomadic populations?