Question for written answer E-008272/2015/rev.1 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Sale of state-subsidised homes in Madrid to a 'vulture fund'

Entitlement to a decent home is a fundamental right, enshrined in European Union and Spanish law.

It recently came to light that Madrid City Council had paid EUR 2.3 million in fees when it sold 1 860 state-subsidised homes (VPOs) to the vulture fund Blackstone in July 2013. The transaction ended with 18 developments of public housing, for rental and for rental with the right to buy, in the hands of the companies Fidere Gestión and Fidere Vivienda, both subsidiaries of Blackstone. Consultancy and intermediation fees of EUR 1.9 million – excluding VAT – to the joint venture Itaca Desarrollos Urbanos y Promociones y Desarrollos Creaziona were recorded in the invoices issued by the joint venture. All this has increased the risk of eviction notices and violations of many people's right to a decent home.

Will the European Union be conducting an in-depth investigation into this case to determine whether it conflicts with or is in breach of European Union legislation on housing, particularly as regards dealings with the above-mentioned private companies?

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