

**Question for written answer E-005670/2016/rev.1  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Elimination of protected housing grants

Four years ago the Spanish Government retroactively eliminated the extension of housing grants via subsidised protected loans to more than 300 000 families. Moreover, year after year it has set much higher interest rates for protected housing loans than those practised on the free market.

Given that the right to housing is enshrined in Principle 31 of the (revised) European Social Charter and the European Parliament resolution of 11 June 2013 on social housing in the European Union, and that the Spanish Government has infringed a number of principles of EU law (legal certainty and legitimate expectations) that protect people against foreseeable changes in rules:

Is the Commission aware of this situation?

Will the Commission take account of this in connection with cohesion policies aimed at combating poverty?