

Question for written answer P-004054/2016
to the Commission
Rule 130
Syed Kamall (ECR)

Subject: French legal problems

I have been contacted by a constituent who believes he has faced discrimination by the French legal system on account of not being a French citizen.

My constituent owns a film production company and sold a film to a French firm in a deal set up by his distributor in France. However, rather than passing on the licensing fee to my constituent, the distributor decided to use the fee to pay off its own debts. The distributor has since closed down.

My constituent has been in contact with the French embassy, which advised him to contact the French prosecutor's office. He first contacted the French prosecutor's office in March 2015, and finally received a response in August 2015 telling him that the case would go to court. However, when he contacted the court, he did not receive a response until January 2016, and this was simply an acknowledgement of his letter.

Can the Commission confirm whether:

1. it has any powers to intervene in my constituent's case to speed up the process of his intra-EU legal dispute?
2. there is any EU agency that my constituent can contact to resolve his business-to-business issue?
3. there is any other advice the Commission could provide that would assist my constituent?