

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2773/00  
by Carl Lang (TDI)  
to the Commission

Subject: Democracy in Poland

More than ten years after the fall of the Berlin wall, opponents of the Communist dictatorship in Poland are still suffering political persecution and discrimination, particularly with regard to their social rights. One example among many is the case of Mr Danilowicz, now a French resident, whose pensions rights acquired in Poland were not recognised, a matter previously brought before the former Commission President, Jacques Delors. At the same time, former officials responsible for ordering arbitrary trials or even summary executions have not been brought to justice but continue to hold important positions in political or economic life.

The Commission has said on several occasions that it will pay particular heed to respect for human rights throughout the accession process for the countries of eastern Europe.

1. What measures will the Commission take vis-à-vis the current Polish Government with a view to ending this discrimination and persecution?
2. Will the Commission make sure before the accession of the countries of central and eastern Europe that Communist criminals guilty of crimes against their peoples are not only brought to justice but also deprived of any influence over the economic or political life of these countries?