

WRITTEN QUESTION E-5447/07  
by Adrian Severin (PSE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Romania's contribution to the EU budget

On 10 October 2007 the Commissioner for Agriculture gave a warning that payments to Romania in the agricultural sector may be cut by 25% because of the deficiencies in Romania's administrative system. At the same time it is expected that Romania will have serious problems in fully absorbing other EU funding to the country, in particular from the various Structural Funds, because of continuing deficiencies in its administrative system.

1. Can the Commission confirm that there is a serious risk that payments to Romania in the agricultural sector in 2007 will be cut in a substantial way, and indicate what amount of money will thus be lost to Romanian citizens?
2. Can the Commission inform the European Parliament if similar problems also exist in other sectors and indicate to what level and what amount of money will thus be lost to Romanian citizens?
3. Can the Commission confirm that as a result of the deficiencies in its administrative system and the ensuing possible cuts in agricultural payments as predicted by the Commissioner for Agriculture on 10 October 2007, in 2007 Romania will be a net contributor to the EU budget?
4. Can the Commission inform the European Parliament, if the Romanian Government is taking the necessary measures to prevent the country also being a net contributor to the EU budget in the subsequent years?
5. Can the Commission inform the European Parliament if a substantial increase in the number of infrastructural projects, financed by the EU Structural Funds and with loans from the EIB, may remedy such a negative situation for the citizens of Romania?