

Question for written answer E-8437/2010
to the Commission
Rule 117
Hynek Fajmon (ECR)

Subject: Signature of contracts for funds allocated under the Regional Operational Programme for Central Bohemia in the Czech Republic

Local authorities in the Central Bohemia region of the Czech Republic have reported that in the recent period 2008-2010 there have been cases in which the President of the region, David Rath, who is chairman of the Regional Council of the Central Bohemia Cohesion Region, has not signed contracts for payment of grants despite the fact that these contracts have been correctly drawn up, have been the subject of a selection procedure and have been duly approved. A number of mayors and local authorities are now getting behind schedule and having to bear unnecessary financial losses in respect of projects which have already been properly carried out.

1. Can the chairman of the Regional Council of the Central Bohemia Cohesion Region delay the payment of funds from the Regional Operational Programme Central Bohemia for duly approved projects without giving grounds, as he has done?
2. Is the chairman of the Regional Council of the Central Bohemia Cohesion Region obliged to sign approved projects without delay?
3. Can the European Commission take any action against the approach taken by the chairman of the Regional Council of the Central Bohemia Cohesion Region?