

**Question for written answer E-000184/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: The use of EU funds in Romania

The Romanian Government has recently approved a draft Government Decision stipulating that the Ministry of European Funds is to be moved to a private office building, where it will pay a monthly rent of EUR 19.8 per square metre, plus VAT.

The leased area is 3 853 square metres, while a maximum of 304 staff members are employed by the Ministry of European Funds, including senior officials and ministerial office staff. The Ministry of European Funds has indicated that the rent will be paid from funds allocated to the Operational Programme for Technical Assistance through the European Regional Development Fund.

In view of this:

1. Does the Commission consider that spending over two million euros annually (EUR 1 830 000 plus VAT) from EU funds for luxury offices is appropriate?
2. Is it legal to use European public money for this purpose?
3. What measures are being envisaged by the Commission to avoid any recurrence of such a situation?