Question for written answer E-002256/2014
to the Commission
Rule 117
Constanze Angela Krehl (S&D)

Subject: Illegal compulsory eviction of Roma settlements in Romania

In Romania, the human right to move freely within a country and to choose freely one's place of residence is constantly violated throughout the country by compulsory evictions of Roma settlements. These compulsory evictions are illegal, as is the forced resettlement of people in unsuitable, segregated housing areas. Many people are made homeless each time there is an illegal compulsory eviction, which goes against Article 31 of the revised European Social Charter. Almost without exception, the people forcibly evicted and resettled in this way are Roma. Roma communities in, for instance, Cluj-Napoca, Baia Mare, Piatra Neamţ and Eforie Sud have suffered in this way. Romania is flouting here Directive 2000/43/EC implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin. National legislation on the right to housing does not, so far, contain any provisions prohibiting either illegal compulsory evictions or ethnic discrimination (banned in Article 4 of Romania's constitution).

1.   Does the Commission support any particular projects to improve the living conditions of Roma? If so, which ones?

2.   Is the Commission aware of the problem of these compulsory evictions carried out illegally across the country and the segregation which follows?

3.   If so, what specific measures has the Commission recommended Romania should take to put an end to these infringements?

4.   Will the Commission itself take suitable measures to put an end to this situation?

5.   How will the Commission monitor the implementation of these measures and EU legislation on living conditions, and the prohibition on compulsory evictions and segregation in particular?

6.   Has the Commission conducted any informal initial investigations into this violation of Directive 2000/43/EC, as has happened in the case of Italy?