

**Question for written answer E-002320/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Nikos Chrysogelos (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Ambient air pollution in Plovdiv, Bulgaria

In 2008, the Bulgarian city of Plovdiv was ranked first in the classification of the 30 worst cities in Europe in terms of air quality. It also ranked first for the number of days on which the PM10 – tiny solid particles with a diameter of less than 10 microns, which can be inhaled and enter the upper respiratory tract – limit value of 50 µg/m³ was exceeded, with 208 days in 2008. The indicator revealed that, on average, the concentrations of these pollutants during 2008 were 2.6 times higher than the legal limits. There has not been any significant change in ambient air quality in Plovdiv since then, and the situation remains very bad, according to the European Environment Agency's 2013 report on air quality in Europe¹.

1. Has the Bulgarian Government informed the Commission as to when it will take proper measures to prevent the ambient air pollution in Plovdiv from damaging the health of the people living there?
2. Is the Commission planning to impose sanctions if the situation does not change?

¹ <http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/air-quality-in-europe-2013>, p. 30.