

**Question for written answer E-003689/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Robert Sturdy (ECR)

Subject: Spanish property and title deeds

I am aware that many property buyers in Spain are still endeavouring to assert their legal rights to the title of their property and that, in many cases, it is proving impossible to achieve this.

Properties deemed to be illegal are being demolished, and it is unacceptable that thousands of people, many of whom are pensioners, who have invested their savings, are being prevented from legally using or selling their properties. In some cases, many years of legal action by purchasers results in little or no compensation being paid, despite previous planning permission being granted by local councils.

In 2009, Commissioner Reding stated that the Commission had contacted the Spanish authorities to enquire as to the steps being taken at national level to address the problems of the many property buyers who have failed to obtain their title deeds.

Can the Commission inform me of the outcome of the contact with the Spanish authorities and of the steps being taken to ensure that everyone caught up in this unacceptable situation has the right to their title deeds to allow them to use or sell their properties?