

**Question for written answer E-011924/2015**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Ashley Fox (ECR)**

Subject: French social charges

I have been contacted by constituents from the South-West of England who have been forced to pay French social charges on the sale of a property in France in June this year. This is despite a ruling by the European Court of Justice of 26 February 2015 that declared such charges illegal.

They have been informed that the charge is still payable as despite the ruling there is no formal administration or procedure put in place to prevent the levying of this tax.

Can the Commission advise me on the time-frame within which the French tax authorities have to comply with the ruling?

In addition, does the Commission not agree with me that the illegally charged funds should be returned to the seller at the exchange rate that existed at the time of the sale (complete with interest), rather than the current rate, as it would be unfair for UK residents to suffer financial loss as a result of the illegal behaviour of the French tax authorities?