

**Question for written answer E-006706/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Isabella De Monte (S&D) and Elena Gentile (S&D)**

Subject: Expropriation of property in Montenegro

The Government of Montenegro is under a legal obligation to return to its rightful owners private property that was expropriated and nationalised under the previous regime, or alternatively to pay financial compensation on the basis of its market value, under Article 3 of the legislation on restitution. Any further privatisation of assets subject to the obligation of restitution, without payment of financial compensation, would constitute a breach of the legislation in force.

There are also many doubts about the practical implementation of administrative and judicial procedures provided for by current legislation on expropriation and town planning, which make it difficult to obtain financial compensation in the event of expropriation.

- Will the Commission contact the authorities of Montenegro with a view to facilitating the restitution of property nationalised under the regime, or alternatively ensuring that compensation is paid to the legitimate owners?
- Will the Commission endeavour to ensure that the procedures provided for by the laws on expropriation of private property are applied effectively, in order to protect the right to property in the country?