

Question for written answer E-001337/2018
to the Commission
Rule 130
Arne Gericke (ECR)

Subject: Street development contributions in Germany - compatibility with EU law

About half of the roads in terms of kilometres built in Germany are residential streets, and it is up to the municipalities to fund any maintenance work. However, in many Federal States they are entitled or even obliged to charge landowners with up to 75 percent of the costs of such maintenance work on their streets: five or six figure sums are not uncommon. The legal basis for these 'street development contributions' is a corresponding statute to be adopted by the municipality in accordance with the laws governing municipal levies in each Land (KAG). The landowners have already financed the construction of these streets themselves – with the exception of a very small subsidy – through the development costs and handed them over to the local authorities. Although streets are a public good and provide a public service, it is only those who own a property who are required personally to make a substantial contribution towards funding maintenance and basic expansion work or any improvement in the transport infrastructure.

1. Are there any other countries or regions in the EU that levy such street development contributions directly solely on the residents of a street requiring maintenance or development work?
2. Does the Commission consider that resident and project-related street construction contributions, as an instrument to finance maintenance work on public residential streets, is in line with EU-law and the principle of equal treatment?