Subject: Relocation of Kastoria's tax office

Under Presidential Decree 111/2014, the organisational structure of the Independent Authority for Public Revenue (IAPR) currently encompasses its central offices, its dedicated decentralised offices run by a governor or a management board, and the regional branches of the Tax Office.

The IAPR was established with the support of the European Commission\(^1\), provided through the Structural Reform Support Service, in order to create an independent and autonomous authority.

The Tax Office branch in Kastoria, Northern Greece, whose lease expired in 2015, has yet to relocate to a new building. The lease contract for the rental of a new property was concluded after a Dutch auction in February 2016.

The relocation of the Tax Office was stalled, however, following a complaint from the prefectural committee controlled by the governing Syriza party. Furthermore, the complaint expressed objections which the tendering procedure had already addressed, and should therefore on no account be sufficient reason for a delay.

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission say whether the head of the Independent Public Revenue Authority was in fact acting truly independently in retroactively halting the relocation of the Tax Office, bearing in mind that the procedures followed were all perfectly legal and above board?

2. Does it believe that the governing Syriza party is overtly pressuring the Governor, thus bringing the IAPR’s autonomy into question?

\(^1\) [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/srss_setting_up_independent_revenue_agency_0.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/srss_setting_up_independent_revenue_agency_0.pdf)