Question for written answer E-006829/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)

Subject: Unacceptable new bankruptcy code

The New Democracy (ND) government has brought in a new bankruptcy code at a time when EU staff admit that the number of people officially registered as homeless in the EU will exceed 4 million. The ND government is putting an end to any rudimentary 'protection' of people's main residences that had previously been in place. It is triggering a large-scale wave of auctions in the name of the 'sustainable' operation of banks and monopoly groups.

A 'shake-out' of non-performing loans is a priority for the 'consolidation' of banks and the completion of the capital markets union, with the goal of weathering the capitalist crisis.

Express mention is made of speeding up electronic auction procedures and seizing the accounts of ordinary families, while, by making legal provision for the bankruptcy of natural persons, the ND government is taking another step towards putting dangerous anti-labour plans into practice.

In the light of this:

How does the Commission justify the fact that, at a time when numbers of homeless people are rocketing and the figures for those who are unemployed or in flexible employment are multiplying, the EU and Member State governments are triggering mass auctions, seizing accounts and delivering up the fates of millions of working-class households in Europe to the banks and funds, making today's already explosive situation far worse, while criminalising the struggle against these unacceptable measures?

What is the Commission's position with regard to the demand made by trade union and civil society bodies that main residences should be protected and auctions should be prohibited for homes owned by professionals whose income is below EUR 12 000, with an automatic freeze on all forms of enforcement action by the banks?