

**Question for written answer E-003707/2021/rev.1  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Angel Dzhambazki (ECR)**

Subject: Hate crime against the Bulgarian community in the Republic of North Macedonia

Yet another attack has taken place in the Republic of North Macedonia because someone has identified with being Bulgarian. A man was set upon with particular effrontery in front of his child, who suffers from a severe form of autism. The attack was perpetrated by his neighbour.

The perpetrator himself has stated that he attacked the man because he identified with being Bulgarian and had displayed the Bulgarian flag on his balcony. The attack was reported to the police and medical testimonial issued attesting to the impact of the attack. This is a direct consequence of false history and indoctrination that we Bulgarians are Tartars, fascists and enemies.

It is why the Republic of North Macedonia must start honouring the Friendship Treaty with Bulgaria before EU accession negotiations can be opened. My questions in connection with this case are:

1. Will all these human rights violations be included in the progress report on the Republic of North Macedonia?
2. What action will the Commission take in respect of the Republic of North Macedonia, which clearly has not broken with its communist past?