

ORAL QUESTION H-0147/07

for Question Time at the part-session in March 2007

pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure

by Milan Gaľa

to the Commission

Subject: Copyright levy reform

The European IT industry is being penalised by excessive demands for the payment of unjustified royalties. In 2005, the Commission concluded that the 2001 legislation on copyright needed to be reformed. In September 2006, it announced a 10-point programme to foster innovation as a main asset of the EU economy. At the same time, it declared copyright levy reform to be the first important key factor in raising the EU's competitiveness with a view to increasing the transparency and effectiveness of the rules on the collection and redistribution of fees in the EU. In January of this year, the Commission decided to postpone the reform indefinitely without giving a reason. This has caused concern throughout the whole information-communication sector. Why has the Commission decided to delay copyright levy reform, and when does it intend to return to the matter?

Tabled: 27.02.2007

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