

WRITTEN QUESTION P-5778/06
by István Szent-Iványi (ALDE)
to the Commission

Subject: North Korean workers in the Czech Republic

At the beginning of November it was reported in various European media that several hundred immigrants from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea were employed in the Czech Republic under inhumane conditions.

Is the Commission aware of this situation?

Can the Commission indicate more precisely how many of these North Korean workers are so employed?

Which undertakings are employing them?

Can the Commission describe the living and working conditions of these workers, particularly with reference to wages, deductions from wages (as payments are being made to the Labour Agency in Pyongyang), housing and social contacts?

Can the Commission indicate whether similar situations exist in other EU Member States or in European countries which are not members of the EU, and if so, in which?

What will the Commission do about this shocking state of affairs?