

WRITTEN QUESTION P-3332/08  
by Dushana Zdravkova (PPE-DE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Supplementary questions further to Commission reply P-2315/08

I would like to thank the Commission for the reply and for the forwarded link. I would like to assure the Commission that not only as a member of the European Parliament but also as a citizen I am very familiar with the abovementioned report. The most recent events relating to the suspension of funds under the PHARE and SAPARD programmes as well as the extension of the deadline originally fixed demonstrate clearly that the general public in Bulgaria has been informed only about a fraction of the problems identified and the measures undertaken. In this context I feel compelled once again to formulate and ask the following questions:

- The conclusions by previous missions demonstrate that the mechanisms used hitherto for carrying out checks have failed to produce the desired results. The question that has remained unanswered is: during the expert missions concerning the preparation of the next report on our country's progress in this area, does the Commission intend to take measures, and if so, what measures, *in addition to the standard measures*? It is not my understanding that during these missions the Commission was going to propose the introduction of measures or standards. (perhaps a case of erroneous translation)
- In a series of questions I have informed the Commission that the citizens of Bulgaria and the Bulgarian members of the European Parliament receive their information mainly and exclusively from the media on key issues concerning the relations between Bulgaria and the EU (as was the case with the letters about the suspension of funds under the PHARE and SAPARD programmes). Does the Commission hold the view that informing Bulgarian members of the European Parliament will at least lead to increased visibility and transparency as regards the activities of the government?
- Can the Commission provide information giving the list of non-governmental organisations whose representatives have met with Commission experts or intend to meet with them? (In spite of my best efforts I could not find any such information).

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize once again that I ask these questions as a representative of the citizens of Bulgaria in order to ensure better transparency, improvement of the consultation process and with a view to assisting the Commission experts.