

WRITTEN QUESTION P-2149/09  
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to the Commission

Subject:           Guaranteeing the right to property

In the municipality of Șelimbăr (Sibiu county, Romania), the residents (numbering some 60 households) created their own electricity grid in response to the failure to invest in infrastructures on the part of Electrica SA (the Romanian electricity distribution company) and/or the local authorities. The villagers invested more than 400 000 lei for this purpose. As soon as the grid was operational, it became the property of Electrica, pursuant to Law No 13/2007. The company is now actually asking the villagers to make additional payments for modernisation work on the grid.

In view of the above, can the Commission state:

- whether the national law in this case is not in contravention of the EU legislation guaranteeing the right to property;
- whether it has examined the monopoly position enjoyed by Electrica SA, given that the residents of Șelimbăr have no alternative at hand?

Should it be established that there has been a breach of EU law and of the principles of the single market, will the Commission take the necessary measures with a view to finding a fair solution for the citizens concerned?