

**Question for written answer P-002217/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Slavi Binev (EFD)

Subject: Greece in serious breach of European law

Is the Commission aware of the practices of the Greek social security agency, IKA, which are in flagrant breach of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 and the annexes thereto? For the past year, Bulgarian citizens who have worked legally in Greece and paid social security contributions there, and who are thus entitled to a partial pension from the Greek state, have been experiencing long delays with their pension payments or have not been paid at all. The relevant Greek authorities have been alerted to the problems on numerous occasions but nothing has changed. The Bulgarian citizens affected have also received no help from the Bulgarian authorities. What is happening seriously violates the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004, which are directly applicable in both Greece and Bulgaria. Greece is guilty of further breaches of the rules with regard to the proper calculation of the contribution period for social security entitlement. Bulgarian citizens have been complaining that they are losing out heavily through instances of miscalculation on the part of the Greek authorities. All this amounts to discrimination and is creating barriers for non-nationals who wish to work in Greece. It is thus in serious breach of the Lisbon Treaty.

1. What action does the Commission intend to take in response to the flagrant breaches by Greece of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004?
2. What action does the Commission intend to take in response to the flagrant breaches by Greece of the Lisbon Treaty?