Question for written answer P-001754/2017 to the Commission Rule 130 Giorgos Grammatikakis (S&D)

Subject: Mismanagement and lack of transparency at the Hellenic Society for the Protection of

Intellectual Property (AEPI) and compliance by Greece with Directive 2014/26/EU

There have been instances of serious mismanagement and a grievous lack of transparency in the accounts of the Hellenic Society for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AEPI) for the 2011-2014 period. More specifically, an audit of its accounts conducted by Ernst & Young on the instructions of the Ministry of Culture revealed that, on 31.12.2014, EUR 42.5 million had been retained from members and the company's rightholders, while board members enjoyed huge salaries.

Directive 2014/26/EU on the collective management of copyright has strict rules governing the operation, management and transparency of collective management organisations.

Given that the deadline for Member States' compliance with the Directive was 10 April 2016 and since the Hellenic Republic has so far failed to transpose the provisions of the Directive into national law, will the Commission say:

- 1. Is it aware of the public prosecutor's investigation into the financial management of the AEPI and the recent raid on the company's offices by the Financial Police?
- 2. Has it formally initiated proceedings under the Treaties to ensure that Greece complies with the provisions of Directive 2014/26/EU?

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