

**Question for written answer E-001633/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi (PPE)

Subject: Protection of the property rights of the Greek ethnic minority in Albania

In the last few days the Albanian Government has made an unacceptable and provocative decision that infringes the rights of the Greek ethnic minority in Albania. Specifically, the Government has decided to seize all of the real estate owned by Greeks in the area of Himara on the pretext of exploiting it for tourism. This is the continuation of a targeted strategy by Edi Rama's Albanian Government which has tried as of late to expropriate large areas of land belonging to the Greek minority in various parts of Albania, forcing them to abandon their ancestral homes.

This arbitrary decision has provoked justified resentment among the Greek ethnic minority of Albania which views the government's actions as a targeted seizure of their property and a flagrant violation of their rights.

Given that the confiscation of Greek property in Himara is undeniably a very serious matter, not to say an act of aggression against an EU Member State:

- (1) Does the Commission consider the Albanian Government's decision to be compatible with the European Convention on Human Rights and Albania's own aspirations to EU membership?
- (2) What immediate measures will it take in response to the policy being followed by the Albanian authorities, which are systematically infringing the rights of the Greek ethnic minority?