Question for written answer E-014660/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Daniel Buda (PPE)

Subject: Problems in the co-financing of the NPRD

The absorption rate of EU funding for the National Rural Development Programme (NRDP) in Romania for the programming period 2007-2013 has been calculated at less than 90%.

The main reason for more funding than this not being accessed has been the cancellation of many contracts owing to a lack of co-financing. This means that a set of contracts worth hundreds of millions of euros have been annulled. The problem began when beneficiaries were unable to gain access to credit from banks – despite those banks having previously issued ‘comfort letters’ – prior to applying for funding. This means that the banks have failed to honour their commitments, and this has made it impossible to implement the eligible projects.

Are there any instruments the Commission can use to monitor the activities of banking institutions in the field of the granting of credit with a view to accessing EU funding?

What measures can be implemented to regulate co-financing and avoid situations in which contracts are cancelled owing to a lack of co-financing?