

Question for written answer E-016056/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Eva Kaili (S&D)

Subject: Problems in the implementation of the new Code of Civil Procedure imposed on Greece

Last July the Hellenic Parliament adopted Law 4335/2015 amending the Code of Civil Procedure. The main thrust of these amendment is to reduce the means of defence available to debtors in the event of foreclosures, to speed up the administration of justice through a new procedure for civil actions and to amend the procedure for satisfying creditors through auctions, involving the partial abolition of the prerogatives of workers and the State in favour of mortgagees (normally banks).

The new provisions have been criticised by the Bar Associations of Greece as more complicated and time-consuming as well as impossible to implement due to insufficient infrastructure, a shortage of judges and secretaries, etc. ... It is also strange that the new Code of Civil Procedure enters into force on 01.01.2016, i.e. in the middle of the legal year. This causes great inconvenience to the judicial officials (judges, lawyers, court clerks) who have jointly submitted a formal request for a nine-month postponement of the entry into force of the new Code so it begins with the new legal year (September 2016).

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

- a) What is the position of its representative in the Troika and the Commissioner responsible as regards the entry into force of the new Code from the middle of the legal year?
- b) Where do they stand on the demand to improve infrastructure and hire the extra staff needed?