

Question for written answer E-014662/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Maria Grapini (S&D)

Subject: Activating the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism

The tragic fire in the Colectiv Club in Bucharest, Romania, on 30 October, in which 50 people died and around 200 were injured, including foreign nationals, is the most serious accident to have occurred in a nightclub anywhere in the world in recent years. It was a devastating fire which rapidly spread throughout the club, where there were over 400 people.

The European Union Civil Protection Mechanism is generally activated in response to natural disasters, in order to help the states concerned to cope more easily with their operations.

How can the Commission tighten up EU legislation both as regards the safety of EU citizens and as regards the arrangements through which operating licences and opinions are issued for activities like this, to avoid a repeat of any such tragedies?

What can the Commission do to ensure the authorities in EU Member States are better informed as regards activating the Civil Protection Mechanism in serious situations (in cases other than natural disasters)?