

**Question for written answer E-014505/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Csaba Molnár (S&D)**

Subject: Energy renovation of residential buildings

Residential buildings account for a third of the EU's total energy consumption. Increasing the energy performance of residential buildings is vital if Europe's dependence on imports and people's energy bills are to be reduced. The Commission has calculated that upgrading the energy performance of buildings could reduce household energy use by as much as 80%. Regrettably the current Hungarian Government does not share this view. Two infringement proceedings have recently been launched against the Hungarian Government for improper implementation of Directives 2010/31/EU and 2012/27/EU on increasing the energy performance of buildings. However, the prime minister's chief of staff has just announced that the government would spend the HUF 300 billion available in the 2014-2020 financial framework on upgrading the energy performance of public buildings only and would use none of it for residential buildings. According to the Prime Minister's Office, residential buildings will not benefit from funding from the 2014-2020 Environmental and Energy Efficiency Operational Programme because this is not permitted by the Commission. In the light of the above, I should like to ask the Commission the following questions:

- Does the Environmental and Energy Efficiency Operational Programme approved by the Commission allow the Hungarian Government to finance programmes to upgrade the energy performance of residential buildings from EU funding between 2014 and 2020?
- Will the Commission launch an enquiry if the Hungarian Government uses funding for improving energy performance exclusively for upgrading public buildings?
- According to the Commission, how much EU money would be available for upgrading the energy performance of residential buildings in Hungary between 2014 and 2020?