

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000486/25
to the Commission
Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)
(4 February 2025)**

Subject: Loans of repatriated ethnic Greeks from former USSR countries

The Pan-Pontian Federation of Greece expresses the anguish of thousands of families repatriated from former USSR countries, who are facing the threat of their homes being auctioned or seized for loans they had taken out using a rehabilitation programme under the Law of 2000. After the onset of the economic crisis in 2009, many families found themselves unable to make their loan repayments.

The large increases in repayment instalments and interest are due to the fact that the loans were linked to Greek State bonds, the prices of which sky-rocketed during the period of the memoranda signed by the Greek governments of ND, SYRIZA and PASOK with the EU, the European Central Bank and the IMF. The funding for the repatriation programme was provided by the Public Investment Programme, which also included funds from the Third and Fourth Community support frameworks.

Given the EU's shared responsibility for leading thousands of families of repatriated people down a dead end,

1. What is the Commission's position on the urgent request to write off the amounts that have amassed from increases, recapitalisations and compound interest?
2. What is the Commission's position on the urgent request for the annual service cost, after the above write-offs, not to exceed 10% of the annual taxable amount, in order for such people to be able to save their only home, which for them was a lifelong dream?
3. What is the Commission's position on the urgent request to cease any enforcement actions or other coercive measure on the part of credit institutions and the State, so that they do not lose their homes?

Submitted: 4.2.2025

**Answer given by Mr Dombrovskis on behalf of the European Commission
(24 April 2025)**

The Commission would like to inform the Honourable Member that a reply was already provided in 2023 on a similar written question related to this issue, E-000432/2023 ⁽¹⁾.

The funds provided through the Public Investment Budget, constituted state support in the form of a grant for installation, rather than a loan.

The grant issued under the rehabilitation program was provided with a state guarantee; therefore, any decisions regarding the write-off of outstanding obligations, annual service costs, or the suspension of enforcement actions would fall under the remit of the Greek authorities, not the Commission.

⁽¹⁾ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2023-000432-ASW_EN.html