

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002974/25
to the Commission**

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(17 July 2025)

Subject: Forced evictions of Roma and compliance with the Charter of Fundamental Rights

On 15 April 2025, over 200 Roma residents in Sofia's Ilinden district were forcibly evicted, despite interim measures imposed by the European Court of Human Rights requiring adequate alternative accommodation. These actions reflect a wider pattern of forced evictions disproportionately affecting Roma communities, which raise serious concerns about structural antigypsyism in Europe.

Under the Charter of Fundamental Rights, Member States must uphold human dignity (Article 1), prohibit discrimination based on ethnic origin (Article 21), and ensure access to housing assistance (Article 34(3)) when implementing EU law or using EU funds.

In the light of these obligations and the enabling condition requiring respect for the Charter in the use of EU funds:

1. What measures is the Commission taking to ensure that EU-funded programmes, particularly those related to housing, comply with the Charter and do not contribute to forced evictions or discrimination?
2. How is the Commission monitoring Bulgaria's compliance with the Charter and the EU Roma Strategic Framework in the light of the recent evictions?
3. Will the Commission assess whether Bulgaria remains compliant with the enabling conditions for accessing cohesion funding, given concerns about fundamental rights violations against Roma?

Submitted: 17.7.2025

Answer given by Mr McGrath on behalf of the European Commission
(26 September 2025)

The Commission is aware of the situation with regard to evictions of Roma people in Sofia's Ilinden district.

Member States must respect EU law, namely the Racial Equality Directive ⁽¹⁾, which prohibits discrimination in the field of housing on grounds of racial or ethnic origin.

Regarding the EU funds, the Member States are required to fulfil enabling conditions under the Common Provisions Regulation ⁽²⁾, including the horizontal enabling condition on the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

While no complaints concerning the evictions of Roma people have so far been reported to the relevant Monitoring Committee, the Committee regularly examines the fulfilment of enabling conditions and their application throughout the programming period, including reporting on the receipt of any cases of non-compliance and complaints regarding the Charter.

The Commission will consider all the steps necessary to safeguard EU law, as appropriate.

⁽¹⁾ Council Directive 2000/43/EC.
⁽²⁾ Regulation (EU) 2021/1060.