

**FORM FOR TABLING A QUESTION FOR
WRITTEN ANSWER (Rule 130)**

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COMMISSION

Priority question

AUTHOR(S): Jordi Sebastià, GREEN/EFA

SUBJECT: Dialects of Bulgarian language
(please specify)

TEXT:

The Institute for Bulgarian Language (www.ibl.bas.bg), part of the Bulgarian Academy of Science, has recently presented a map with the dialects of the Bulgarian language inside and outside the state borders. This map claims that all Macedonian-speaking people in Bulgaria, the Republic of Macedonia, Greece and Albania speak in fact some dialects of Bulgarian, thus de facto denying the existence of the Macedonian language.

Furthermore, it "discovers" Bulgarian-speaking populations in half of the Balkan Peninsula, including areas in Romania, Turkey and Serbia.

The whole "map project", which has very little to do with science and clearly promotes the outdated ultra-nationalistic Bulgarian ideology, was primarily funded by the European Commission through the European Social Fund.

Therefore, we would like to ask:

1. Is the Commission and relevant Commissioners Mr. Navracsics, Hahn and Moscovici aware of the content of this project?
2. How acceptable is it for the ESF and the EU tax payers to fund projects which clearly promote racism and intolerance, thus contravening essential EU principles?
3. Is the Commission performing any kind of content control to projects it is directly funding and if yes, how did it fail to identify the obvious controversies the map would cause?

Signature(s):

Date: 17/12/2014