



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General Enlargement

C - ALBANIA, BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA, SERBIA, KOSOVO

The Director

Brussels, 20 FEB. 2012  
ELARG C KN rs D(2012)

Dear Mr Danushi,

Thank you for your letter of January 15, 2012, addressed to Commissioner Füle, where you are bringing to his attention your views on the situation of property rights in Albania, and more specifically of property restitution and compensation.

The Commissioner has asked me to reply to your letter.

The European Commission gives particular importance to questions related to property rights. As you know, this issue has been included among the 12 key priorities of its 2010 Opinion on Albania's application for EU membership.

The Commission considers specifically that Albania should prepare, adopt and implement a national strategy and action plan on property rights following broad stakeholder consultation and taking European Court of Human Rights case law into account. This plan should cover restitution, compensation and legalisation processes.

We have strongly encouraged the Albanian authorities to apply equitable and efficient solutions to property issues, and will continue to do so, as this issue has a major impact on the application of the rule of law and human rights in your country, as you also rightly point out. Through our partnership with OSCE, we are actively engaged in the provision of technical assistance for the systematic first registration of immovable properties in Albania's southern coast, aiming to strengthen the legal certainty of property titles and eradicate informality and the risk of corrupt practices.

We are closely monitoring the way the Albanian authorities address property rights issues, and reflect any progress and challenges in the country Progress Report to the Parliament and the Council.

Yours sincerely,

  
Pierre Mirel

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