

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

BLANK FOR SUBMITTING A WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Questioner: MEP Andreas Mölzer

Reference: Human Rights Abuses in Romania

7 April 2006

Text:

In Romania, MISA Yoga School and its students have been in many cases victims of persecutions, abuses and discrimination (see also attachments). Although the Romanian Helsinki Committee has come since 1996 to the conclusion that MISA is not illegal – as the Romanian authorities have claimed, in March 2004 there has been a search of private houses of over 600 yoga practitioners, with damage and confiscation of private goods, whereat innocent people have been forced through maltreatment, abuse and intimidation to sign dictated declarations.

This procedure, which is violating legal and human rights, and which is based on arbitrary accusations - that lead to arrest warrants against innocent people, respectively their hospitalization in psychiatric hospitals - has never been investigated in spite of complaints. After this event repression, intimidation and manipulation took place, which have been documented by Amnesty International. The victims are waiting in vain – after having completed the legal proceedings – for these chicanes to end, not to mention compensation or official excuses. The Romanian Justice system seems to be, regardless of reforms, still filled with corruption and a totalitarian mentality.

- 1.) Is the European Commission, in connection with the Romanian accession talks, aware about these or similar events, and in what way are they affecting the negotiations?
- 2.) Is an intervention of the European Court for Human rights planned and what consequences would a potential condemnation have for the condemned country itself?
- 3.) How is the Commission planning to act in order on one hand to get dismissal of charges and compensation, and on the other hand to prevent similar cases in the future?