

Question for written answer E-005746/2014
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Tax obligations of EU migrants on return to their country of origin

During the European election campaign for the legislature in which I am now serving as an MEP, numerous groups of returned migrants in my region, Galicia (Spain) told me of their deep distress at the tax difficulties they met with on returning home.

Many European citizens who migrated to other EU Member States and now receive retirement pensions or other economic social benefits from their host countries are finding it difficult to meet their tax obligations because of the lack of harmonisation measures at European level, and are even faced with heavy fines imposed by their respective tax authorities.

As things stand, certain tax requirements and practices in some Member States are perceived by the returned migrants as constituting unfair harassment and contravening Community principles and European fundamental freedoms.

Is the Commission aware of this situation? Does it agree that it is a problem? Does it intend to take any form of initiative to prevent the discriminatory fiscal treatment of social benefits in the EU or to create a European framework to prevent dual taxation of returned migrants and allow the creation of agreements between Member States or, as necessary, changes in existing agreements?