

Question for written answer E-004807/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Mortgage loans for foreigners

Purchasers of a private residential property must often take out a loan. However, it appears to be the current practice of British banks only to grant mortgage loans to British citizens. Citizens of other EU states, by contrast, are turned down with their nationality being cited as grounds. This makes it much more difficult for EU citizens to purchase property in the UK, even if they are long-term residents of the country.

Can the Commission answer the following questions in this regard:

1. Is the Commission aware of the procedures followed by British banks as described above, and have similar cases occurred in other Member States?
2. Does the Commission believe this practice is compatible with the European treaties, with the creation of a single European market and with the Mortgage Credit Directive?