

**Question for written answer E-006276/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Morten Messerschmidt (ECR)

Subject: Validity of nationally assigned EORI numbers throughout the EU

The author of this question has been contacted by a Danish citizen who for a long time operated a company in Spain, where he resells a product manufactured in Spain to the US. This person has now moved back to Denmark and set up a company with a view to continuing his business, that is to say purchasing the product in Spain and reselling it in the US. The person is VAT registered as an importer/exporter and therefore also has an EORI number issued in Denmark.

The Spanish customs authorities will not accept this EORI number, however, and require him also to be registered in Spain, with the justification that the exporter should be Spanish and not Danish. However, this registration is only possible if the person concerned is 'residencia', which is not possible while he is resident in Denmark, as a person cannot be 'residencia' in two countries at the same time.

As a result of these circuitous requirements, he has to transport his goods from Spain to Denmark and from there on to the US rather than sending the containers direct from Spain to the US, resulting in considerable additional expense.

Can the Commission confirm that an EORI number issued in Denmark is only valid in Denmark and not throughout the EU, in other words that the Spanish customs authorities' interpretation is correct?

If so, does it consider this to be compatible with the EU's own rules relating to the internal market?

If the interpretation is incorrect, will it point out to the Spanish authorities that an EORI number is valid throughout the EU?