

**Question for written answer E-012613/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Right to vote in national elections in another Member State

EU citizens enjoy the right to move freely within Member States. However, when they emigrate or spend long periods of time in another Member State, they do not have a clear-cut right to vote in elections in their new country of residence. There are also countries whose citizens can lose the right to vote in their home country's parliamentary elections when they move to another Member State. This creates inequalities among citizens, who are denied a say in democratic decision-making. Although Member States have the power to decide which citizens may vote in national parliamentary elections, rules leading to disenfranchisement can undermine the right of free movement within the EU.

In its Recommendation C(2014) 391, the Commission called for Member States to ensure that citizens who had moved away from their home country be allowed to keep their right to vote. It did not, however, suggest how residents might be enabled to participate to better effect in decision-making in their new country of residence.

Has the Commission monitored the implementation of its recommendation?

Will the Commission further consider how EU citizens who move from one Member State to another might be enabled to participate more effectively in decision-making in their new country of residence?