

**Question for written answer E-000057/2019  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Jordi Solé (Verts/ALE) and Josep-Maria Terricabras (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: Principle of non-discrimination

Under Spanish law, citizens must register in their local *Padrón* (the list of residents) in order to enjoy a series of rights, including the right to vote in elections<sup>1</sup>. EU nationals are automatically removed from the *Padrón* unless they re-register every five years, and even every two years in some cases<sup>2</sup>. No similar requirement applies to Spanish nationals. Some EU citizens resident in Barcelona have informed us that they have been removed from the *Padrón* and have therefore lost their right to vote, without receiving prior notification of their removal.

Does the Commission believe that this requirement to re-register is compatible with EU law, in particular with the principle of non-discrimination (Article 18 TFEU) and the status of permanent residence (Directive 38/2004/EC<sup>3</sup>)?

Can the right to vote (Article 20 TFEU), an essential part of EU citizenship, be made subject to new conditions, and might there be a risk of EU citizens being unaware of such a change?

Does the Commission have data on how many EU citizens have been removed from their local *Padrón*, and will therefore not be able to vote in the forthcoming European elections?

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<sup>1</sup> Articles 53-56 of Spanish Royal Decree 1690/1986 of 11 July.

<sup>2</sup> Article 7 of Spanish resolution of 30 January 2015 (BOE\_24MAR15).

<sup>3</sup> Chapter IV and Recital 18 of Directive 38/2004/EC.