Question for written answer P-015181/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Daniele Viotti (S&D) and Ulrike Lunacek (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Freedom of movement for same-sex couples and their families

EU citizens' right to freedom of movement, as defined by Directive 2004/38/EC, includes provision for the freedom of movement of legal spouses. Nevertheless, same-sex couples in a registered partnership or marriage contracted in a Member State still face problems as a result of the non-recognition of their partnership or marriage by other Member States.

Does the Commission agree that failing to recognise legally contracted marriages or partnerships between two spouses of the same sex constitutes discrimination based on sexual orientation?

Will the Commission submit a proposal for a regulation ensuring mutual recognition of civil status documents and their legal effects, or will it take other action aimed at ensuring full respect of the right of EU citizens and their family members to move and reside freely within the territory of Member States and reducing discriminatory legal and administrative barriers?

Could the Commission, in its next annual report on the implementation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights, provide more detailed statistics concerning the enquiries and complaints it has received from same-sex couples and their families who are exercising their right to free movement in the EU?

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