



**2018/2111(INI)**

5.10.2018

# **DRAFT OPINION**

of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

for the Committee on Constitutional Affairs

on implementation of the Treaty provisions related to EU citizenship  
(2018/2111(INI))

Rapporteur: Martina Anderson



## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs calls on the Committee on Constitutional Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

- A. whereas, in accordance with Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU), the European Union is founded on respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights; whereas the principle of representative democracy, accountability and transparency is a fundamental pillar of the European Parliament;
- B. whereas European citizens are protected from discrimination by the Charter of Fundamental Rights that covers sex, race, colour, ethnicity, social origin, genetic features, language, religion, belief, opinion, membership of a minority, property, birth, disability, age and sexual orientation;
- C. whereas EU citizenship is gained through nationality of a Member State, and clearly supplements national citizenship in accordance with Article 9 of the TEU; whereas European citizenship does not, and cannot, supersede national citizenship;
- D. whereas European citizens are directly represented in the European Parliament and have a democratic right to stand and vote in European elections, even when residing in another territory;
  1. Stresses that the EU has a duty to protect minorities and to guarantee their rights; notes that Article 2 of the TEU frames the protection of minorities as one of the fundamental values of the EU; further notes that Articles 21 (on non-discrimination) and 22 (on cultural, religious and linguistic diversity) of the Charter of Fundamental Rights acquired legally binding form in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU);
  2. Notes with concern that there are Member States which do not extend voting rights in European Parliament elections to their nationals, who are European citizens; points out that this limits the diversity of views in the Parliament and mitigates the accountability of the European institutions to European citizens;
  3. Notes that almost 7 million EU citizens currently live in countries outside the EU, and that this number is expected to increase to at least 10 million by 2020;
  4. Insists that the Member States recognise language discrimination as a violation of Article 2 of the TEU; calls on the Fundamental Rights Agency to start dealing with anti-regional or minority language discrimination in its work programme;
  5. Calls on the UK Government to ensure that the rights of EU citizens living in the UK are protected post-Brexit, an entitlement they possess under the Treaties.