



LIBE_OJ(2018)0219_2

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Mini-Hearing

“EU Citizenship”

Monday 19 February 2018, 15.00 - 17.00

European Parliament, Brussels

József Antall building

Room: JAN4Q2

Background

Pursuant to Article 20(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union every person holding the nationality of a Member State is a Union citizen. Union citizenship is additional to national citizenship and does not replace it. The concept of Union citizenship was introduced in the Treaty on European Union, signed in Maastricht in 1992, which endowed Union citizens with a number of novel rights, including political rights.

Union citizens enjoy the right to move and reside freely in other Member States, to vote and to stand as candidates in municipal and European elections, to petition the Parliament, to apply to the European Ombudsman, and to enjoy in a third country the protection of the diplomatic and consular authorities of any other Member State. The Lisbon Treaty, signed in 2007, granted Union citizens another right – the right to start a Citizens' Initiative.

The concept of EU citizenship was substantially enhanced and developed by the Court of Justice of the EU (CJEU), which in 2001 famously claimed that 'Union citizenship is destined to be the fundamental status of nationals of the Member States'. Free movement rights – initially reserved for those engaged in economic activity and thus actively contributing to the economy of their host Member State – were gradually expanded to other categories of persons, including students, jobseekers and those who retire and settle in another Member State. EU citizenship, intrinsically linked to free movement of persons, has broadly been considered one of the Union's most significant achievements. Arguably, however, it also has the potential to become one of the most divisive, as the United Kingdom's EU membership referendum showed.

The European Parliament stated in its Resolution of 12 December 2017 that the efforts to promote EU citizenship are linked to the practical enjoyment of fundamental rights and freedoms and to the opportunity for every citizen to participate in the democratic life of the Union.

The aim of this public hearing is to listen to experts in EU citizenship and its relation with fundamental rights, including the rights of minorities to gain insight on the impact of EU citizenship in the life of the citizens but also in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice Policies.

More information:

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2017/599361/EPRS_BRI\(2017\)599361_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2017/599361/EPRS_BRI(2017)599361_EN.pdf)

Order of business

15:00 – 15:10

Welcome and opening remarks by

- **Mr Claude MORAES**, Chair of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

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15:10 – 15:25

Professor Dimitry KOCHENOV, Chair in EU Constitutional Law, Faculty of Law, University of Groningen

15:25 – 15:40

Professor Dora KOSTAKOPOULOU, Professor of European Union Law, European Integration and Public Policy, School of Law, University of Warwick

15:40 – 15:55

Mr Balázs TÁRNOK, Pázmány Péter Catholic University of Budapest

15:55 – 16:10

Ms Gillian MORE, European Commission, DG Justice, Union Citizenship Rights and Free Movement

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16:10 – 16:50

Q&A session

16:50 – 17:00

Concluding remarks

Annex

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR THOSE ATTENDING THE MEETING

PRACTICAL GUIDELINES FOR THE DEBATE

- During the discussion, so as to make it possible for the highest number of parliamentarians to intervene, speaking time of speakers will be strictly limited to **the specified time allocated** and speaking time of the Members to **two minutes** per contribution or question in order to ensure a fruitful discussion.
- Speakers wishing to supplement their speeches may do so in writing by submitting a document (preferably in English or French) in advance to the secretariat (email: libe-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu). These documents will be circulated during the meeting.
- Meeting documents will be progressively added to the Events section of the LIBE Committee pages: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/libe/events-hearings.html>.

THE MEETING IS BROADCASTED LIVE AND RECORDED

LIBE Committee pages:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/activities/committees/homeCom.do?language=EN&body=LIBE>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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