

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0124/05
by Antoine Duquesne (ALDE)
to the Commission

Subject: Free movement of persons and recognition of qualifications

A French national seeking to have his baccalaureate recognised by the Belgian education system was forced to pay € 124 for an equivalency decision to be issued by the directorate-general for compulsory education.

This practice runs counter to the principle of free movement of students within the European Union. Under Court of Justice case-law in the cases di Leo, Lair, Brown, Humbel and Gravier, the holder of a French baccalaureate is entitled to have his qualification recognised in Belgium and to enjoy the same right of access to specialised training as Belgian nationals in possession of a certificate of higher secondary education.

If the Commission recognises that this is an act which violates Community legislation, what steps does it intend to take to ensure that Community legislation is actually transposed into Member State law and, in this particular case, into Belgian law?