

WRITTEN QUESTION E-6390/07

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to the Commission

Subject: New residence rules in Verona

In a recent decision, the city council of Verona (Italy), on a proposal by the mayor, Flavio Tosi, introduced new rules for granting residence to foreign nationals (including Community citizens). In particular, the new criteria for allocating public housing disadvantage foreign nationals residing in Verona, whether from the Community or not. For public tenders under regional law 10/96 a preference of up to four points has been introduced for Italian nationals who have been living in Verona for at least twenty years. A further obstacle has been created to the allocation of rent-controlled housing, with eligibility now being restricted to those who have at least ten years' residence in Verona.

Does the Commission agree that these rules adopted by the city of Verona amount to a form of discrimination, running counter to the spirit of the Treaties and in particular to Article 12 of the EC Treaty and Article 6 of the Treaty on European Union?

Does the Commission not believe that these rules adopted by Verona are in breach of Directive 2003/109/EC¹ concerning the status of third-country nationals who are long-term residents, and in particular of its Article 11(1)(f)?

Is the Commission in a position to exert pressure on the Italian authorities in order to ensure full compliance with EU law?

¹ OJ L 16, 23.1.2004, p 44.