

WRITTEN QUESTION E-4110/08
by Petru Filip (PPE-DE)
to the Council

Subject: Recognition of Bulgarian and Romanian qualifications

Some Member States (Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, France, Greece, Ireland, Luxembourg, Spain, Italy, Poland, the UK and Portugal) have refused to transpose Directive 2006/100/EC¹ on the recognition of Bulgarian and Romanian qualifications. This has been received by the general public as a sign of unjustified discrimination. The Commission has brought the matter before the European Court of Justice, but this is not a satisfactory situation. What needs to be done here is to approach the matter from a political viewpoint grounded in authentic solidarity at European level: not one single Romanian or Bulgarian MEP has asked for preferential treatment for their countries, even if the issue of respect for European law in various areas (notably the economy) is a source of preoccupation for the public.

If the principle of European solidarity means anything in reality, then a series of measures are needed to ensure that Member States refusing to transpose Directive 2006/100/EC nonetheless respect the rights of all European citizens on a basis of equality. What is the Council's stand on the matter, and what measures does it propose in the immediate term?

¹ OJ L 363, 20.12.2006, p. 141.