

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2099/09
by Urszula Gacek (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: National passengers on international trains

Under the terms and limits of Regulation (EC) No 1371/2007¹ on rail passengers' rights and obligations, those passengers subject to delays of 60 minutes or more, cancellation, or other listed problems, are to receive compensation and/or damages for these problems when taking an international train journey.

Currently, however, most international trains (inter-city/Euro-city/etc.) have multiple stops in one country and allow individual passengers to buy tickets covering only the national leg of the schedule.

Because of this, the problem has arisen in which an international train is delayed for more than 60 minutes and only those passengers holding a ticket for the international leg of the journey are compensated and those holding a ticket for the national leg of the journey are not.

Is it the Commission's opinion that this is discrimination between two passengers who were subject to the same problem? Does this not make national passengers on international trains second class citizens (no pun intended) in terms of their rights?

If the Commission does feel this is unjustified discrimination, does it believe that further action should be taken at European level, Member State level, or both?

¹ OJ L 315, 3.12.2007, p. 14.