

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3673/09

by Marco Cappato (ALDE) and Marco Pannella (ALDE)
to the Commission

Subject: The Stockholm Programme and the rights of same-sex couples

Some EU Member States allow same-sex couples to marry, to form civil unions or to be recognised as 'de facto' couples, but the rights and responsibilities acquired by such couples cease to apply if they move to another State due to non-application of the principle of mutual recognition.

What action does the Commission intend to take, particularly in the context of the Stockholm Programme, to ensure mutual recognition by the Member States of same-sex marriages and civil unions?

Does the Commission agree that the failure to apply that principle constitutes a form of discrimination which is unacceptable at European level?