

**Question for written answer E-7651/2010
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Edward Scicluna (S&D)

Subject: EU funding for ID cards in Malta

For people residing in Malta, the right to vote is dependent on having a valid identity (ID) card. At present, the majority of ID cards in Malta have expired.

The Maltese Government has long been promising to replace the existing ID cards in order to ensure that only those persons who are entitled to vote according to Maltese law do so.

Has the Maltese Government asked the Commission for EU funding to pay for the replacement of Maltese ID cards? If so, has the Commission agreed? How much money has been committed? When was the decision taken by the Commission to award funding? When will the Maltese Government receive the funds? And by what deadline must these funds be spent?