

**Question for written answer E-009949/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Schengen visas: ensuring that Ukraine's territorial integrity and sovereignty are respected

Following its illegal annexation of the Ukrainian Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Russia took a number of steps to bind the occupied territory as closely as possible to Russia. One of the key moves was to grant Russian citizenship to inhabitants of Crimea and to issue them with Russian passports. The passports, issued in special offices, are identical to those issued in Russia. Given that the EU and its Member States do not recognise Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea and continue to regard the republic as an integral part of Ukraine, Schengen visas for inhabitants of Crimea should be issued only in EU offices in Ukraine.

1. Is the Commission checking to ensure that Schengen visas are being issued in accordance with the principle of Ukraine's territorial integrity?
2. Are Schengen visas being issued to inhabitants of Crimea by accredited consular offices outside Ukraine, and are Russian passports issued to inhabitants of the Ukrainian Autonomous Republic of Crimea being accepted?