

**Question for written answer E-003408/2017/rev.2
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Charles Goerens (ALDE)

Subject: Validity of EU passport after a Member State has left the EU

According to Article 20 TFEU, 'every person holding the nationality of a Member State shall be a citizen of the Union' and shall thus 'enjoy the rights and be subject to the duties provided for in the Treaties'.

Should a Member State decide to leave the European Union, the inevitable question would arise as to the period of validity of EU passports, which is implicitly the same as that of the national passports. One could argue that citizens of former Member States have a vested interest in the rights associated with EU citizenship, such as the right to move and reside freely within the EU or the right to be protected by the diplomatic and consular authorities of any other EU country. These rights were granted to them by their national authorities via their passports.

Will any holder of a passport from a former Member State lose all the rights attached to EU citizenship, stipulated in Article 20, paragraph 2 TFEU, after their Member State ceases to be part of the EU, or will they be entitled to retain the aforementioned rights until the legal expiration date of their passport?