Question for written answer E-000168/2021 to the Commission
Rule 138
Sabine Verheyen (PPE), Marion Walsmann (PPE), Axel Voss (PPE), Jeroen Lenaers (PPE)

Subject: European Certificate of Succession

Regulation (EU) No 650/2012 and its Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1329/2014 established a European Certificate of Succession. The purpose of the certificate is to enable heirs, legatees and executors to prove their status and exercise their powers in other Member States. The European Certificate of Succession is to be recognised by all EU Member States, with no need for any specific procedures. However, there still seem to be gaps in the recognition of the European Certificate of Succession in some Member States. For example, we were recently informed of the case of a German citizen who inherited a property in the Netherlands. As their European Certificate of Succession was issued by a German local court in German, the Netherlands authorities did not recognise it.

1. Is the Commission aware of the difficulties encountered in securing recognition of the European Certificate of Succession in certain Member States, and the resulting obstacles to cross-border inheritance and succession in the EU?

2. How will the Commission ensure that the European Certificate of Succession is recognised without difficulty in all Member States?