

**Question for written answer E-000118/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Examining the proposed amendment to the Slovak Citizenship Act from the perspective of EU law

In recent years, the Commission has repeatedly stated that it is engaged in a dialogue with the Slovak authorities on the Slovak citizenship law.

The amendment of the Act was most recently postponed – again – by the Slovak Parliament last autumn; however, it appears from the proposal that the problem which has existed since the adoption of the Act in 2010 has not been solved with the creation of new exemptions. The legislation particularly affects the country's largest minority, the Hungarian community, which in Hungary would be able to apply for a second nationality.

The legislative amendment pending adoption at second reading would unduly discriminate against EU citizens in terms of their losing or acquiring Slovak citizenship. While non-Slovak nationals living abroad can acquire Slovak citizenship, Slovak nationals residing in Slovakia lose their Slovak nationality when acquiring the nationality of another Member State, unless they have resided in the other State for five years.

1. What is the state of play of this dialogue: has it been successful so far, and if not, why not?
2. Does the draft comply with the requirements of EU law, in particular the principle of proportionality, and are the legal remedies which were previously lacking, for example, now guaranteed?
3. To what extent is legislation acceptable if it is indirectly directed against certain national minorities (including EU citizens)?