According to case law, it is for each Member State to lay down the conditions for acquisition and loss of nationality, and that in situations covered by EU law, the national rules concerned must have due regard to the latter¹.

In this context, the Commission considers that the operation of investor citizenship schemes, that is, the systematic granting of EU citizenship in return for payments or investments, violates EU law². Therefore, the Commission launched, in October 2020, infringement proceedings against Cyprus and Malta. In addition, in the Recommendation of 28 March 2022 on immediate steps in the context of the Russian invasion of Ukraine in relation to investor citizenship schemes and investor residence schemes³ referred to by the Honourable Member, the Commission stressed that such schemes must be terminated immediately.

The Commission does not collect statistics on the number of naturalisations granted to Russian and Belarusian nationals based on such schemes.

¹ Judgment of 18 January 2022, Wiener Landesregierung (Révocation d'une assurance de naturalisation), C-118/20, EU:C:2022:34, paragraph 37 and the case-law cited.