Question for written answer E-000863/2023/rev.1 to the Commission

Rule 138

José Gusmão (The Left), Marisa Matias (The Left)

Subject: Freedom of movement and driving licences

Freedom of movement and residence for people in the European Union is the cornerstone of EU citizenship. However, we have become aware of the following situation: a Spanish citizen, with a Portuguese social security and tax ID number and habitual residence in Portugal since the age of five, is being prevented from obtaining a driving licence in this country.

The citizen has already paid the full amount for the licence and was permitted to sit the theory test, which he passed. He was subsequently prevented from taking the practical driving test because his identification document (a Spanish national ID card) was not accepted and he was automatically failed.

The citizen concerned now does not know how to resolve this process, as the deadline for him to apply for a licence in Portugal expires in August 2023.

Can the Commission say whether these types of situation are in line with the principle of freedom of movement and whether they conflict with Directive 2006/126/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 December 2006 on driving licences, in particular Article 7?

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