

**Question for written answer E-001545/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Spanish authorities continue issuing 'golden visas' to Russian nationals through the investor residence scheme

Between 2017 and 2022, Spain received EUR 3 400 million in investments by Russian citizens in exchange for a residence permit under Law 14/2013.<sup>1</sup> Officially, the Spanish Government agreed to follow the March 2022 Commission recommendation to suspend the issuance of investor residence permits to Russian or Belarusian nationals,<sup>2</sup> but according to specialised law firms, Spain has violated its commitment, as the competent authorities are still issuing investor residence permits.<sup>3</sup>

Furthermore, no updated aggregate data has been made public on investor residence permits granted by the Ministry of Migration and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs since the last compulsory annual report in April 2015.<sup>4</sup> Accordingly, International Transparency Spain made a public information request to both Ministries:<sup>5</sup> the Ministry of Migration did not provide updated data and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that no statistical follow-up on investor residence permits granted in consulates was being made.<sup>6</sup>

1. What is the Commission's position on the fact that Spain is still granting investor residence permits to Russian nationals despite its commitment not to do so?
2. Does the Spanish transparency and governance around investors residence permits meet the Commission's standards requested in its report on Investor Citizenship and Residence Schemes in the European Union (COM (2019)0012)?

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.elnacional.cat/oneconomia/ca/economia/espanya-rebre-3400-milions-euros-residencies-golden-ciudadans-russos-2017-2022\\_975957\\_102.html](https://www.elnacional.cat/oneconomia/ca/economia/espanya-rebre-3400-milions-euros-residencies-golden-ciudadans-russos-2017-2022_975957_102.html)

<sup>2</sup> [http://web.archive.org/web/20220627112751/http://www.exteriores.gob.es/Consulados/moscu/es/Comunicacion/Noticias/Paginas/Articulos/20220315\\_NOT1.aspx](http://web.archive.org/web/20220627112751/http://www.exteriores.gob.es/Consulados/moscu/es/Comunicacion/Noticias/Paginas/Articulos/20220315_NOT1.aspx)

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.elnacional.cat/oneconomia/ca/economia/ciudadans-russos-rebre-permis-residencia-espanya-comprat-casa\\_974619\\_102.html](https://www.elnacional.cat/oneconomia/ca/economia/ciudadans-russos-rebre-permis-residencia-espanya-comprat-casa_974619_102.html)

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.inclusion.gob.es/documents/1823432/1826062/Informe\\_anual\\_de\\_la\\_Seccion\\_de\\_Movilidad\\_de\\_la\\_ley\\_14\\_2013.pdf/b9ce8fb6-fe9e-ffd5-7d62-613e87bb1873?t=1664891362512](https://www.inclusion.gob.es/documents/1823432/1826062/Informe_anual_de_la_Seccion_de_Movilidad_de_la_ley_14_2013.pdf/b9ce8fb6-fe9e-ffd5-7d62-613e87bb1873?t=1664891362512)

<sup>5</sup> <https://transparencia.org.es/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/ESPAN%CC%83A-SOLICITA-ACCESO-A-LA-INFORMACIO%CC%81N-SOBRE-GOLDEN-VISAS.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.elnacional.cat/oneconomia/ca/economia/espanya-rebre-3400-milions-euros-residencies-golden-ciudadans-russos-2017-2022\\_975957\\_102.html](https://www.elnacional.cat/oneconomia/ca/economia/espanya-rebre-3400-milions-euros-residencies-golden-ciudadans-russos-2017-2022_975957_102.html)