

Question for written answer E-003696/2023
to the Commission
Rule 138
Carlo Fidanza (ECR)

Subject: Right of EU citizens to obtain an accreditation document in other Member States

Some Italian citizens who live in Spain have said that, unlike the authorities in Italy, Spain's competent authorities do not issue a document comparable to identity cards. Instead of directly providing a *tarjeta de identificación de extranjero* (TIE), i.e. a plasticised document with photos and identification data, the Spanish authorities issue only a *número de identidad de extranjero* (NIE), linked to a *certificado de registrado de ciudadano de la Unión Europea*. The NIE does not include photos and, as indicated on the back, it cannot be used to verify the identity or nationality of its bearer. Foreign nationals from outside the EU are issued with a TIE directly. This approach causes some trouble for EU citizens resident in Spain.

In the light of the above:

1. As a general principle, does the Commission believe that EU citizens resident in another Member State should be able to obtain an identity document which is not valid for expatriation purposes but that has been issued by the competent authorities?
2. Does it consider that the Spanish authorities' actions show a lack of reciprocity in comparison with services offered in other Member States, such as Italy?
3. With a view to ensuring that EU citizens resident in a Member State other than their own are treated in the same way in all Member States, does it consider it appropriate to push for common standards for the issuing of identity cards which are not valid for expatriation purposes?

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