

**Question for written answer P-003848/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**Isabelle Durant (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: Expulsion of EU nationals from Belgium

Last year 2 712 EU nationals in Belgium were ordered to leave the country. Those concerned included salaried workers employed full-time in subsidised posts under the job placement scheme. Nearly half the people in posts of this kind then go on to find long-term jobs on the labour market. However despite that, the 'Office des étrangers' issued orders through local municipalities for people in these posts to leave the country.

1. Does the Commission consider this interpretation to be in keeping with the letter and spirit of the fundamental principle of freedom of movement for workers, as laid down in Article 45 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and with Directive 2004/38/EC?
2. Ought not the Belgian authorities to be warned of the dangers of such a practice? By extension, all jobs in the public sector and all those in the private sector which benefit from lower employers' contributions or tax incentives (a large proportion, particularly low paid jobs or jobs in priority sectors) could be deemed to represent an 'unreasonable burden', resulting in EU nationals in these jobs being ordered to leave the country. Abuse of this kind would then become a real obstacle to freedom of movement for workers.