

**Question for written answer E-002303/2024/rev.1
to the Commission
Rule 144
Diana Riba i Giner (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: The situation of Belarusian citizens who have been deprived of their nationality

In recent years, there has been a decline in respect for human rights in Belarusian territory. The government of Aliaksandr Lukashenka has introduced legislative changes aimed at stripping Belarusian nationals living abroad of their citizenship if they participate in activities it deems 'extremist'. Additionally, to control political dissent, the Belarusian regime has altered the procedures for renewing documentation for its citizens residing abroad, now requiring them to travel to Belarus for these renewals. According to Spain's National Statistics Institute, this affects over 6 000 Belarusian residents in Spain. In response to a request from the Republican group in Spain's Congress of Deputies, the Spanish Government indicated a year ago that this issue was being discussed by the Commission and the Council, in order to coordinate actions among the Member States.

What is the Commission's opinion on the situation of Belarusian citizens living abroad who have been deprived of their nationality or are unable to renew their documentation?

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