

Question for written answer E-002772/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Daniel Freund (Verts/ALE)

Subject: EU action on gambling companies in Malta

Gambling companies in Europe are extremely concentrated in Malta. There are 321 such companies with a Maltese licence¹.

The largest companies are: Flutter (TSG Interactive, PokerStars), Hillside (bet365), 888 (Mr. Green), Betsson, Super Group (Betway), and Tipico.

Another deeply concerning matter is the Maltese Gaming Act (Chapter 583 of the Laws of Malta)², which hinders the enforcement of rulings handed down by courts in other Member States against Maltese-licensed gambling companies. After almost two years of reviewing the compatibility of Malta's Gaming Act with EU law, the Commission has recently decided to open an infringement procedure against Malta.

1. Can the Commission state whether any gambling company in Malta benefits from EU funding, whether through direct or indirect management?
2. Can the Commission provide a detailed explanation of why it took nearly two years to review the Gaming Act and reach this decision, and can it provide access to the written exchanges on this case between Malta and the Commission in order to make this lengthy process more comprehensible?

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¹ <https://www.mga.org.mt/licensee-hub/licensee-register/>.

² Malta Government Gazette, 1 August 2018, <https://legislation.mt/eli/cap/583/eng>.