

Question for written answer E-004229/2025

to the Commission

Rule 144

Danilo Della Valle (The Left), Sandro Ruotolo (S&D)

Subject: Restrictions on freedom of movement in the Schengen area following the expulsion of SSC Napoli fans in Eindhoven

On 21 October 2025, approximately 200 Italian citizens were stopped and expelled from the Netherlands by the Eindhoven police under a municipal ordinance, without any individual charges being made, on the occasion of the PSV Eindhoven vs SSC Napoli football match. Such selective restrictions on freedom of movement, without specific reasons and only justified on the basis of alleged risks to public order, undermine the fundamental principle underlying the Schengen area and pose a serious threat to freedom of movement within the EU.

Articles 25–28 of the Schengen Borders Code (Regulation (EC) No 562/2006)¹ provide that any reintroduction, even temporary, of controls or prohibitions must be notified to the Commission, justified by an effective and proportionate threat, and limited in time and to the minimum necessary extent.

1. Did the measures adopted by the Dutch authorities comply with the notification, necessity and proportionality requirements set out in the Schengen Borders Code?
2. Do these collective suspensions of freedom of movement, in the absence of any risk assessment, not undermine the core values of the Schengen area?
3. What measures does the Commission intend to promote to ensure that freedom of movement is effective and is not subject to arbitrary restrictions justified by unfounded public order concerns?

Submitted: 28.10.2025

¹ Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2006 establishing a Community Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code) (OJ L 105, 13.4.2006, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2006/562/oj>).