

Question for written answer E-003749/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Kosma Zlotowski (ECR)

Subject: Recognition in Member States of driving licences issued in the United Kingdom before the end of the transition period (Brexit)

I have been receiving reports from Polish citizens regarding cases of potential breaches of the principle of mutual recognition of driving licences obtained in the United Kingdom while it was a Member State of the European Union. This concerns situations in which EU citizens obtained driving licences of specific categories there in accordance with the applicable rules and procedures while the UK was an EU Member State. Directive 2006/126/EC introduced the principle of mutual recognition of driving licences issued by Member States.

However, following the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the EU and the end of the transition period, problems are arising with the recognition of such driving licences by the authorities of Member States, even though these licences were granted while the United Kingdom was a Member State of the EU and in accordance with the laws in force in the United Kingdom at the time of their issue.

In this connection:

1. How does the Commission interpret the obligations of Member States regarding the recognition of driving licences issued by the United Kingdom during its membership of the EU when the holders apply for their recognition or exchange after the end of the transition period?
2. Can a refusal to recognise driving licence categories granted in accordance with UK law in force at the time of issue be consistent with EU law?
3. Is the Commission monitoring Member States' practices in this regard, and, if the problem is widespread, does it plan to take action to ensure a uniform approach to such cases?

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