

**Priority question for written answer P-004836/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

Martin Schirdewan (The Left)

Subject: Commission's call on Malta to comply with EU rules on the recognition and enforcement of judgments in the area of gambling

On 12 June 2023, the Maltese legislature passed 'Bill 55', inserting Article 56A into the Malta Gaming Act. This article essentially stipulates that foreign court judgments, including those of other EU Member States, which uphold legal actions challenging the legality of services offered by Maltese-licensed gaming companies, are not to be recognised or enforced in Malta.

This new article appears to be in breach of EU law, specifically Regulation (EU) 1215/2012, as it prevents the recognition and enforcement of judgments issued by courts of other EU Member States.

As the dialogue with the Maltese authorities did not resolve the matter, the Commission opened an infringement procedure on 18 June 2025 by sending a letter of formal notice to Malta (INFR(2025)2100).

1. What is the next decision the Commission is due to make in the infringement procedure, and when can it be expected?
2. If the Commission decides to issue a reasoned opinion after the formal notice, on what grounds would it be based?
3. Is the Commission considering referring the matter to the Court of Justice of the European Union?

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