

**Priority question for written answer P-000585/2026/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Implementation and effectiveness of EU visa restrictions for Russian citizens

Recent media reports¹²³ indicate that Russian citizens continue to travel to the EU for holidays, including to destinations such as the French Alps, despite Russia's ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine. This situation calls into question the credibility of the EU's visa policy towards Russia.

In response to similar concerns in the past, the Commission introduced stricter visa measures in November 2025, including increasing the scrutiny of Russian nationals' applications and ending multiple-entry visas, with limited exceptions for journalists and human rights defenders. However, these recent reports raise serious concerns about the effectiveness of these restrictions, as they suggest that Russian nationals may still obtain Schengen visas without major obstacles.

1. What is the Commission's view on these media reports?
2. How does the Commission ensure that these visa restrictions are applied consistently and effectively across all Member States, in particular by national consular authorities, to prevent such incidents in the future?
3. Which concrete additional measures is the Commission considering to prevent such incidents from recurring, including a possible general suspension of Schengen visas for Russian nationals?

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¹ <https://www.thetimes.com/world/europe/article/decadent-debauched-denounced-rich-russians-are-in-firing-line-mnsb007v6>.

² <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15496133/Putins-goddaughter-Russias-super-rich-celebrities-seen-partying-Europes-exclusive-resorts-Ukraine-war-rages-on.html>.

³ <https://www.ad.nl/buitenland/russische-elite-feest-in-frans-skioord-courchevel-en-dat-valt-slecht-bij-thuisfront-schamen-jullie-je-niet~a38704f3/?referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2F>.