

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002772/25
to the Commission
Daniel Freund (Verts/ALE)
(8 July 2025)**

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 licence ⁽¹⁾.

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?

Submitted: 8.7.2025

**Answer given by Mr McGrath on behalf of the European Commission
(8 September 2025)**

Based on the information available, there is no indication showing that gambling companies in Malta benefit from EU funding.

The Commission always prioritises dialogue and supports Member States in the implementation of EU law. As the dialogue with the Maltese authorities did not resolve the matter, the Commission launched infringement proceedings.

The written exchanges with Malta on this issue are therefore linked to an ongoing infringement procedure and can as such not be made public.

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

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