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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Mînzatu
on behalf of the European Commission
(5.12.2025)

Article 18 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) prohibits any discrimination on grounds of nationality in the areas covered by EU law. The general rule in this respect is that – when they are in a similar situation – nationals of an EU Member State should be treated outside of their Member State of origin in the same way as the nationals of the host Member State.

The Greek Law 4957/2022 provides that English-language undergraduate programmes at Greek universities are intended exclusively for foreign students. This law thereby prevents Greek nationals from enrolling in these programmes. Inasmuch as this situation gives rise to reverse discrimination to the detriment of Greek students, it is purely internal to Greece.

According to case law, the principle of equal treatment enshrined in EU law cannot be invoked in purely domestic situations. In such a case, it is the responsibility of national courts to determine whether discrimination prohibited by national law has occurred and, where relevant, decide on the measures needed to remedy it¹.

Moreover, and pursuant to Article 6 of the TFEU, the EU has only the ‘competence to carry out actions to support, coordinate or supplement the actions of the Member States’ in the field of education. Furthermore, Article 165(1) of the TFEU obliges the EU to fully respect ‘the responsibility of the Member States for the content of teaching and the organisation of education systems’.

¹ Order of 5 April 2004, *Mosconi and Ordine degli Ingegneri di Verona e Provincia*, C-3/02, EU:C:2004:224, paragraph 53 and the case-law cited; see also, to that effect, judgment of 2 April 2020, *PF and Others*, C-830/18, EU:C:2020:275, paragraph 35 and the case-law cited.