

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002056/26
to the Commission
Hanna Gedin (The Left), Jonas Sjöstedt (The Left)
(19 May 2026)**

Subject: Retroactive reversal of favourable administrative decisions

The rule of law is a universal principle of governance and is fundamental to international peace, security and political stability. Mindful of the developments taking place with regard to rule of law policy in the EU, the Commission published a communication in 2014 on a new EU framework to strengthen the rule of law. In 2019, further definitions were established with regard to the rule of law, and in December 2020 the EU's co-legislators codified a legally binding definition as part of the Conditionality Regulation (Article 2).

A core element of the rule of law is the principle of legality, according to which the exercise of public powers must be foreseeable, legally certain and clearly regulated by law.

In Sweden, a discussion has taken place on the possibility of bringing in a special law that would allow for the blanket revocation of permanent residence permits. The introduction of such a law would mean that administrative decisions that were previously favourable would be retroactively amended, to the detriment of the individuals concerned. Views diverge as to whether this would be in line with EU law. With the above in mind, we should like some guidance from the Commission.

1. Does the Commission consider the retroactive, blanket revocation of permanent residence permits that have already been granted to be compatible with legal certainty and the fundamental principles of the rule of law?
2. Does the Commission take the view that the retroactive reversal of previously favourable administrative decisions, to the detriment of the individuals concerned, would be compatible with EU law, the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and the Treaty on European Union?

Submitted: 19.5.2026

**Answer given by Mr McGrath on behalf of the European Commission
(2 September 2026)**

As already indicated in its reply to Written Question E-000796/2026, the Commission, as a matter of principle, does not comment on draft legislation.

Consequently, at this stage, it is not in a position to provide substantive answers to the questions raised by the Honourable Members.
