



Parliamentary questions

21 January 2015


E-000786-15

**Question for written answer
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Catherine Bearder (ALDE)

► **Subject: Border checks in Gibraltar**

 Answer(s)

1. Is the Commission aware that the primary reason for the delays to EU nationals and others wishing to enter or exit Gibraltar through its land frontier with Spain is not the physical infrastructure on the ground, but the manner in which the Spanish authorities conduct their controls by stopping vehicles in the green lane?

Therefore, the infrastructure works currently under way on the Spanish side of the border will achieve nothing without a change in procedures.

2. How does the Commission propose to ensure that the Spanish authorities fine -tune their risk-based profiling , and how does it propose to ensure that Spain proceeds to the 100% elimination of checks on vehicles?

Last updated: 3 February 2015

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Parliamentary questions

2 June 2015

[E-000786/15](#)

[E-000186/15](#)

Joint answer given by Mr Avramopoulos on behalf of the Commission

Written questions :[E-000786/15](#) , [E-000186/15](#)

The Commission refers the Honourable Members to its answers to written questions [E-009810/2014](#) and [E-007507/2014](#).

In addition, following a technical meeting beginning of February 2015, the Commission is in contact with the Spanish authorities in order to receive requested further information.

Last updated: 2 June 2015

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Parliamentary questions

29 January 2015

E-009810/2014

Answer given by Mr Avramopoulos on behalf of the Commission

The Commission is regularly informed about the situation at the Spanish-Gibraltar border, including on delays reported by citizens upon entry or exit to Spain. It is committed to continue working on this matter to find a sustainable solution and improve the situation of many citizens crossing this border daily.

On 30 July 2014, the Commission addressed requests for additional measures to both Spain and the United Kingdom to be implemented without delay in order to reduce the waiting time. One of the measures requested from Spain was to optimise risk-based profiling and to adapt the checks at the border accordingly. The Commission recently received a reply from Spain and will now analyse it before assessing the situation at this border again.

Last updated: 2 February 2015

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Parliamentary questions

29 January 2015

[E-007538/14](#)

[E-007507/14](#)

Joint answer given by Mr Avramopoulos on behalf of the Commission

Written questions :[E-007538/14](#) , [E-007507/14](#)

On 2 July 2014, the team of Commission experts paid a second technical fact finding visit to the border crossing point of La Línea de la Concepción between Spain and Gibraltar. The aim of the visit was to get a full picture of the steps that had been communicated by the authorities of Spain and Gibraltar on their implementation of the Commission's recommendations from November 2013 and to better understand what measures still need to be implemented. Following the visit, on 30 July 2014 the Commission addressed a set of more specific recommendations to both Spain and Gibraltar with a view to improving the vehicular and pedestrian traffic situation at this border and better addressing tobacco smuggling.

One of the aspects covered by the Commission's recommendations to Spain is that checks carried out by the Spanish authorities on both persons and vehicles must be based on a well-defined risk assessment and the principle of proportionality.

The Commission has received the Spanish reply and is currently analysing it.

Last updated: 29 January 2015

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