Question for written answer E-014655/2015 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: UK Border Control's refusal to allow entry to a legal EU resident

On the morning of 16 September 2015, a US national on her way to a professional meeting at Imperial College (one of her clients) was not allowed to board the Eurostar train bound for London by the UK Border Control Force at Gare du Midi (Brussels). This woman is a legal resident in Spain, and the legal domestic partner of an EU citizen. She is a self-employed consultant registered in the Spanish social security and tax administration system, since she works out of Madrid.

The UK officer argued that the said person was in violation of paragraph V4.5 of Appendix V: Immigration Rules for Visitors (UK Notice of Refusal of Leave to Enter, COH ID 23290622). The passenger showed the said officer her US passport, a Spanish ID card, a domestic partnership certificate and her consultancy contract, to no avail. Furthermore, she was detained for questioning for four hours.

Does the Commission believe this behaviour to be consistent with EU legislation, in particular Article 45 of the TFEU, Articles 11 and 13 of Regulation 883/04, and other provisions regarding the freedom of movement of family members of EU nationals and the free provision of services?

What measures will the Commission take to stop this practice by UK Border Control officers?

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