

**Priority question for written answer  
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Visa requirement imposed by Nicaragua on certain EU citizens and application of the reciprocity mechanism

On 16 February 2026, the Republic of Nicaragua unilaterally introduced mandatory entry visas (Category C) for nationals of 128 countries, including Slovenia, Croatia, Slovakia, Estonia and Lithuania. At the same time, Nicaraguan nationals continue to enjoy visa-free travel to the Schengen area.<sup>1</sup>

Nationals of all other EU Member States, including Germany, France, Austria and Hungary remain exempt from visa requirements for entry into Nicaragua. This selective measure results in unequal treatment of EU citizens and raises concerns regarding compliance with the reciprocity principle under Regulation (EU) 2018/1806.

In this context:

- 1 Has Nicaragua communicate its decision to European Commission to impose visa requirements on nationals for only certain Member States?
- 2 Does unilateral measure of Nicaragua constitute a breach of the principle of reciprocity, and does it meet the conditions for triggering the reciprocity mechanism established under Regulation (EU) 2018/1806?
- 3 Does the Commission intend to activate the reciprocity mechanism and take diplomatic or legal steps to ensure equal treatment of all EU citizens, including the possible temporary reintroduction of visa requirements for Nicaraguan nationals if the situation is not remedied?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.canal4.com.ni/migracion-y-extranjeria-establece-nuevos-criterios-de-libre-visado-y-visa-consultada/>