

**Question for written answer E-000104/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Evžen Tošenovský (ECR)

Subject: Gambling sector in the EU

Almost a year after the European Commission decided not to address gambling issues, Member States continue to breach EU law and act contrary to the decision-making practice of the Court of Justice of the EU. Such actions by the Member States lead to the development of illegal gambling, which poses a risk for young and socially disadvantaged players. An example of this approach is the situation in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, where a ban on gambling in some municipalities and towns not only breaches the principles of EU law, but also forces players to seek an alternative to the illegal and unregulated gambling market. Similarly, German legislation on the operation of gambling shows signs of inconsistency, and is incoherent and discriminatory.

1. Can the Commission say whether it agrees that zero tolerance is ineffective and, on the contrary, can lead to the development of illegal and unregulated gambling?
2. How does the Commission plan to address the discriminatory approach to gambling in Germany?
3. Does the Commission not consider it necessary to create a uniform legal framework for regulating gambling across the EU?