



Quarterly update (since 2019) of a full overview of

- Legislation and Jurisprudence on
- European Free Movement Issues

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March 2026



**Paul will retire in May and this is his last contribution.
We would like to thank him for all he has done for NEFIS
and wish him all the best for the future.**

Latest judgments, AG opinions and new pending cases

§ 1 Exit and Entry

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§ 2 Residence

CJEU	12 Mar 2026	C-477/24	<i>Deldwyn</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7(3)
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§ 3 Equal Treatment

CJEU	12 Mar 2026	C-43/24	<i>Shipova</i>	TFEU Citizens Dir.	Art. 8+21 Art. 4
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CJEU	12 Feb 2026	C-48/24	<i>Vilniaus</i>	TFEU	Art. 49
CJEU	11 Dec 2025	C-789/23	<i>Tatrauské</i>	TFEU	Art. 21(1)
CJEU	(pending)	C-4/26	<i>Hicinz</i>	TFEU	Art. 20

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§ 4 Loss of Rights

CJEU AG	15 Jan 2026	C-560/24	<i>Besthame</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 35
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§ 5 Family Members

CJEU	(pending)	C-653/25	<i>E.M.</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
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CJEU	(pending)	C-628/25	<i>Crossryn</i>	Charter WA	Art. 7+45 Art. 10(1)+17(2)
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Citizens Dir.	Art. 2(2)
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§ 6 Procedural Rights

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About

NEFIS is designed for judges who need to keep up to date with EU developments on EU citizenship and free movement.

NEFIS contains EU legislation and ALL relevant case law on EU citizens and their family members in relation to:

* exit and entry * residence * equal treatment * loss of rights * family members * procedural rights and * Brexit.

NEFIS does not include case law on regular migration or asylum.

We would like to refer to separate Newsletters on these issues: [NEMIS](#) and [NEAIS](#).

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Editorial

Welcome at the **first** issue of NEFIS in 2026. We would like to draw your attention to the following.

CJEU Judgments on: Residence

In *Deldwyn* (C-477/24) the CJEU ruled that the meaning of the expression “for more than one year” in Art. 7(3)(b) Dir. 2004/38 refers to a single continuous period of employment of more than one year. According to this article a worker shall retain the status of worker if he or she is in duly recorded involuntary unemployment after having been employed for more than one year and has been registered as a job-seeker with the relevant employment office. The fact that a Union citizen residing in the territory of another MS receives an unemployment allowance from that MS is not, as such, to be regarded, by the immigration authority of that MS, as constituting adequate proof that that person is in ‘duly recorded’ involuntary unemployment within the meaning of that provision. It appeared that the competent body in the Member State in this case (Ireland) provided unemployment allowances while it was not required to examine whether or not unemployment was ‘involuntary’. Given Art. 47 of the Charter the immigration authority is obliged to communicate the information in its file, if necessary in suitably redacted form, to an applicant who is a third-country national, or to his or her representative, before making a decision relating to the retention of his or her right of residence or the grant of a residence card pursuant to Art. 14 Dir. 2004/38.

CJEU Judgments on: Equal Treatment

The case *Shipova* (C-43/24) answers the question whether Bulgarian law - which does not allow amendment of gender, name, or personal identification data for transgender persons - violates EU law when applied to a Bulgarian national, K.M.H., who exercised her EU free-movement rights by living in Italy. Bulgaria’s highest civil court sought clarification from the CJEU on whether such national rules, reinforced by a binding constitutional judgment restricting “sex” to its biological meaning, are compatible with Art. 21 TFEU, 4(3) of Dir. 2004/38, and Art. 7 of the Charter. The applicant argued that the inability to update her civil status data creates serious administrative and personal obstacles - especially given the mismatch between her lived gender and her identity documents - thus hindering the practical exercise of free movement rights.

The CJEU noted that while civil-status matters fall within national competence, MSs must exercise that competence consistently with EU law. A refusal to recognise or amend gender data can impede free movement by forcing individuals to continuously dispel doubts about their identity. Inconsistencies between lived gender and official documents constitute a restriction under Art. 21 TFEU, unless they pursue legitimate EU recognised public interest objectives, which Bulgaria did not demonstrate. The CJEU stressed that Art. 7 of the Charter aligns with Art. 8 ECHR, which protects gender identity and obliges states to provide accessible procedures for legal gender recognition. The CJEU concluded that Bulgarian legislation and judicial interpretations preventing amendment of gender data breach EU law where they unjustifiably restrict a mobile EU citizen’s rights. National courts must disapply conflicting constitutional interpretations.

CJEU Judgments on: Equal Treatment

In *Vilniaus* (C-48/24) the CJEU ruled that the obligation imposed by Lithuanian law on a private international school to review whether its staff meet a requirement for proficiency in the Lithuanian language potentially fails to have regard to the freedom of establishment.

In relation to the requirements for providing proof which establishes that the language requirement has been met, the CJEU considers that the Lithuanian law, insofar as it requires the provision of a certificate issued by the National Education Agency on the basis of language tests organised in Lithuania, appears to go beyond what is necessary. The language requirement in question appears to apply as soon as the persons concerned begin their duties, irrespective of the duration of their employment contract,

without any exceptions or flexibility in that regard. According to the CJEU, the national law therefore appears to be disproportionate in relation to the objective pursued.

CJEU Judgments on: Equal Treatment

The case *Tatrauské* (C-789/23) concerns an application to have a marriage contract concluded in Italy registered in the Republic of Lithuania's register of marriage contracts. The application was denied because the contract did not contain the Lithuanian personal identification number of at least one of the parties to the contract. The CJEU was asked to rule whether the requirement violated Art. 21(1) TFEU since it was applicable only to marriage contracts concluded abroad but not to those concluded in Lithuania. The Court reasoned that the above-mentioned requirement amounted to a restriction on the rights conferred by Art. 21(1) TFEU because it placed EU citizens who had made use of the right to free movement at a disadvantage compared to those who had concluded their marriage contracts in Lithuania. The restriction was based on a legitimate objective that had public interest considerations, namely ensuring the accuracy and authenticity of the information contained in the registers. However, the Court was unconvinced about the necessity of the requirement. It reasoned that there were alternative methods than requiring a Lithuanian personal identification number for verifying the correct identity of those registering a marriage contract. Consequently, it ruled that Art. 21(1) TFEU must be interpreted as precluding legislation of a MS under which the registration in the Register of Marriage Contracts of a marriage contract concluded in another MS is subject to the requirement that that contract contains the personal identification number, issued by that first MS, of at least one of the two spouses, where such a requirement is not laid down in respect of the registration, in that register, of a marriage contract concluded in that MS and where the information contained in that contract makes it possible to identify the persons who concluded that contract.

CJEU pending cases on: Loss of Rights

In *Besthame* (C-560/24) the Irish Court of Appeal seeks clarification whether Dir. 2004/38, more specifically Art. 35 of that directive, applies in cases where fraud or abuse of rights, in this case a marriage of convenience that was the reason why a TCN was granted permission to reside in a MS as a family member of an Union citizen, is established when that TCN no longer resides in that MS as a family member and has since acquired the nationality of that MS.

AG Norkus concludes, following a literal, contextual and teleological analysis of Art. 35, that in situations where a TCN no longer qualifies as a 'beneficiary' within the meaning of Art. 3(1), MSs remain competent to take appropriate measures if they establish fraud or abuse of rights even though the person concerned no longer depends on Dir. 2004/38 for their right to remain in that MS.

CJEU pending cases on: Equal Treatment

Hicinz (C-4/26) concerns the evacuation of refugees in the Gaza Strip according to the evacuation process negotiated by the Belgium State with Israel and Jordan. The applicants, who all still live in the Gaza Strip, have applied for and three have been issued 'humanitarian visa' by the Belgium authorities that enable them to leave the Gaza Strip.

The question referred to the CJEU concerns the nature of the humanitarian visa that the Belgium authorities have issued to three applicants and the obligations that arise for the Belgium State. According to the applicants, Art. 20 TFEU, as interpreted by the CJEU in the Ruiz Zambrano case law and read in conjunction with Arts. 2, 4, 7 and 24 EU Charter, imposes an obligation on the Belgium State to evacuate them from the Gaza Strip, or, in the alternative, to inform the Israeli and Jordanian authorities of their desire to leave the Gaza Strip and go to Belgium. The first question requires the CJEU to state whether Art. 20 TFEU can be invoked successfully by a third-country national who has been issued a visa in the context of family reunion that allows them to join the parents and minor brother of an EU citizen. Questions 2-4 seek clarification as to the scope of protection enjoyed under Art. 20 TFEU and the aforementioned Charter provisions if the CJEU finds that Art. 20 TFEU applies to the situation of a third-country national who has been issued a visa by a Member State. The fifth question sees to the distinction made by the Belgium authorities in their evacuation process to prioritise nuclear family members (i.e. spouses and minor children of Union citizens) over other family members. The referring court wants to know whether this distinction is permitted under Art. 20 TFEU read in conjunction with Arts. 20-21 EU Charter if the lives of all of the Union citizen's family members are at danger as long as they remain in the third country. A request to deal with the case according to the CJEU's urgent preliminary ruling (Art. 107 CJEU's Rules of Procedure) has been made.

CJEU pending cases on: Family Members

In *E.M.* (C-653/25) the referring Romanian court has asked the CJEU whether national legislation that allows national authorities to take between five months and up to two years to assess an application to recover nationality of that MS and, in its slip stream Union citizenship and the rights attached to the latter status, is compatible with Art. 20 TFEU and Art. 9 TEU and the right to an effective remedy in Art. 47 EU Charter.

CJEU pending cases on: Family Members

The case *Crossryn* (C-628/25) concerns the interpretation of the right to remain as a family member of a Union Citizen in Arts. 10(1)(e)(ii) read in conjunction with 17(2) Withdrawal Agreement. In this case the family member concerned is a family member in the ascending line who qualified as dependent family member within the meaning of Art. 2(2)(d) Dir. 2004/38 at the end of the transition period, but did not reside in the host State at that time.

If the CJEU finds that under these circumstances a family member falls within the scope of Art. 10(1)(e)(ii) Withdrawal Agreement, then the referring court also seeks clarification whether that family member continues to enjoy a right of residence under Art. 13 in Title II of Part 2 of the Withdrawal Agreement and can therefore rely on Art. 23 of that Agreement if that family member leaves the home of the person from whom they derive their right to reside in the host State to escape domestic abuse and, therefore, ceases to qualify as a dependent family member.

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Nijmegen, 30 March 2026 Carolus Grütters, Sandra Mantu, Paul Minderhoud & Helen Oosterom-Staples

Adopted Measures

Relevant provisions concerning free movement of persons and EU citizenship are contained in the following measures:

Treaty

Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union

Charter Art. 45

- * OJ C 202, 2016, 389 (12/12/2007)

Charter

into force: 1 Dec. 2009

adopted: 12 Dec. 2007

Treaty

Treaty on the Functioning of the Union

TFEU Art. 2, 8, 18, 20, 21

- * OJ C 306, 2012, 1 (13/12/2007)

TFEU

into force: 1 Dec. 2009

adopted: 13 Dec. 2007

Agreement with UK

Brexit: Withdrawal Agreement of the UK of the EU

- * OJ 2020 L 29 (24/01/2020)

WA

into force: 1 Feb. 2020

adopted: 24 Jan. 2020

Regulation 492/2011

On freedom of movement for workers within the Union

- * OJ 2011 L 141 (05/04/2011)
- * codifies Regulation 1612/68 due to amendments by Council Regulation EEC 312/76, Council Regulation EEC 2434/92 and Art. 38(1) of Dir. 2004/38

FMofW

into force: 16 May 2011

adopted: 5 Apr. 2011

Directive 2004/38

Right of EU citizens and their family members to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States

- * OJ 2004 L 158 (29/04/2004)
- * amending Regulation (EEC) No 1612/68 and repealing Directive 64/221/EEC, Directive 68/360/EEC, Directive 72/194/EEC, Directive 73/148/EEC, Directive 75/34/EEC, Directive 75/35/EEC, Directive 90/364/EEC, Directive 90/365/EEC and Directive 93/96/EEC

Citizens

into force: 30 Apr. 2006

adopted: 29 Apr. 2004

Regulation 2019/1157

On strengthening the security of identity cards of Union citizens and of residence documents issued to Union citizens and their family members exercising their right of free movement

- * OJ 2019 L 188 (20/06/2019)

ID Cards

into force: 2 Aug. 2021

adopted: 20 June 2019

1 Exit and Entry

Cases on Exit and Entry

case law sorted in chronological order

CJEU judgments

☞	CJEU	10 Apr 2025,	C-607/21	<i>X.X.X. v State (BE)</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 2(2)(d)
☞	CJEU	4 Oct 2024,	C-4/23	<i>Mirin</i>	TFEU	Art. 2+8+21
☞	CJEU	22 Feb 2024,	C-491/21	<i>W.A. v Dir. Persoanelor (RO)</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 27
☞	CJEU	5 Dec 2023,	C-128/22	<i>NORDIC</i>	TFEU	Art. 21
☞	CJEU	27 Apr 2023,	C-528/21	<i>M.D.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 4
☞	CJEU	24 June 2022,	C-2/21	<i>K.S. & S.V.D.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 4+5+27+29
☞	CJEU	14 Dec 2021,	C-490/20	<i>V.M.A. v Pancharevo (BU)</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	6 Oct 2021,	C-35/20	<i>A. v Syyttäjä (FI)</i>	TFEU	Art. 20+21
☞	CJEU	18 June 2020,	C-754/18	<i>Ryan Air</i>	Charter	Art. 18+20+21
☞	CJEU	10 Jan 2019,	C-169/18	<i>Mahmood a.o.</i>	TFEU	Art. 24(2)
☞	CJEU	18 Dec 2014,	C-202/13	<i>Sean McCarthy</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 21(1)
☞	CJEU	4 Oct 2012,	C-249/11	<i>Byankov</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 5(2)+20
☞	CJEU	17 Nov 2011,	C-430/10	<i>Gaydarov</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 5
☞	CJEU	17 Nov 2011,	C-434/10	<i>Aladzhev</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 5+10+35
☞	CJEU	19 July 2008,	C-33/07	<i>Jipa</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 27
					TFEU	Art. 4+27
					Citizens Dir.	Art. 4+27
					Citizens Dir.	Art. 18+27
					TFEU	Art. 20

See further details on these cases in § 7

2 Residence

Cases on residence rights

case law sorted in chronological order

		<i>CJEU judgments</i>					
<i>New</i>	☞	CJEU	12 Mar 2026,	C-477/24	<i>Deldwyn</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7(3)
	☞	CJEU	1 Aug 2025,	C-397/23	<i>Jobcenter Arbeitplus Bielefeld</i>	TFEU	Art. 18+20+21
	☞	CJEU	8 May 2025,	C-130/24	<i>Stadt Wuppertal</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. all
	☞	CJEU	20 June 2024,	C-540/22	<i>S.N. a.o.</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
	☞	CJEU	2 Feb 2024,	C-323/23	<i>Pensionsversicherungsanstalt</i>	TFEU	Art. 56+57
	☞	CJEU	22 June 2023,	C-323/23	<i>Pensionsversicherungsanstalt</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7
	☞	CJEU	22 June 2023,	C-459/20	<i>X. v Stscr. (NL)</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
	☞	CJEU	7 Sep 2022,	C-624/20	<i>E.K. v Stscr. (NL)</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
	☞	CJEU	5 May 2022,	C-451/19	<i>X.U. & Q.P. v Toledo (ES)</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
	☞	CJEU	2 Sep 2021,	C-930/19	<i>X. v Belgium (BE)</i>	Citizens Dir.	all Art.
	☞	CJEU	22 June 2021,	C-719/19	<i>F.S. v Stscr. (NL)</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 15(1)+6(1)
	☞	CJEU	17 Dec 2020,	C-398/19	<i>B.Y.</i>	TFEU	Art. 18+21
	☞	CJEU	17 Dec 2020,	C-710/19	<i>G.M.A.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 14(4)(b)+15+31
	☞	CJEU	27 Feb 2020,	C-836/18	<i>R.H.</i>	TFEU	Art. 45
	☞	CJEU	27 Feb 2020,	C-836/18	<i>R.H.</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
	☞	CJEU	22 Jan 2020,	C-32/19	<i>A.T.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 17(1)(a)
	☞	CJEU	2 Oct 2019,	C-93/18	<i>Bajratari</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7(1)(b)
	☞	CJEU	19 Sep 2019,	C-544/18	<i>Daknevičiute</i>	TFEU	Art. 49
	☞	CJEU	11 Apr 2019,	C-483/17	<i>Tarola</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7(1)(a)+7(3)(c)
	☞	CJEU	13 Sep 2018,	C-618/16	<i>Rafal Prefeta</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7(2)+7(3)
	☞	CJEU	20 Dec 2017,	C-442/16	<i>Gusa</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7(1)+7(3)+14(4)
	☞	CJEU	10 May 2017,	C-133/15	<i>Chavez-Vilchez</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
	☞	CJEU	13 Sep 2016,	C-165/14	<i>Rendón Marín</i>	TFEU	Art. 20+21
	☞	CJEU	30 June 2016,	C-115/15	<i>N.A.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 13(2)
	☞	CJEU	30 June 2016,	C-115/15	<i>N.A.</i>	FMofW Reg.	Art. 10
	☞	CJEU	30 June 2016,	C-115/15	<i>N.A.</i>	TFEU	Art. 20+21
	☞	CJEU	14 June 2016,	C-308/14	<i>Com. v UK</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7+14(2)+24(2)
	☞	CJEU	15 Sep 2015,	C-67/14	<i>Alimanovic</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 24(2)
	☞	CJEU	15 Sep 2015,	C-67/14	<i>Alimanovic</i>	FMofW Reg.	Art. 4
	☞	CJEU	15 Sep 2015,	C-67/14	<i>Alimanovic</i>	TFEU	Art. 18+45
	☞	CJEU	26 July 2015,	C-218/14	<i>Kuldip Singh a.o.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7(1)(b)+13(2)(a)
	☞	CJEU	11 Nov 2014,	C-333/13	<i>Dano a.o.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7(1)(b)+24(1)
	☞	CJEU	10 July 2014,	C-244/13	<i>Ogieriakhi</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 16(2)
	☞	CJEU	19 June 2014,	C-507/12	<i>Saint Prix</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7(3)
	☞	CJEU	19 June 2014,	C-507/12	<i>Saint Prix</i>	TFEU	Art. 45
	☞	CJEU	12 Mar 2014,	C-456/12	<i>O. & B.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 3+6+7
	☞	CJEU	12 Mar 2014,	C-456/12	<i>O. & B.</i>	TFEU	Art. 20+21
	☞	CJEU	12 Mar 2014,	C-457/12	<i>S. & G.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 3+6+7
	☞	CJEU	12 Mar 2014,	C-457/12	<i>S. & G.</i>	TFEU	Art. 20+21
	☞	CJEU	16 Jan 2014,	C-378/12	<i>Onuekwere</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 16
	☞	CJEU	19 Sep 2013,	C-140/12	<i>Brey</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7(1)(b)
	☞	CJEU	13 June 2013,	C-45/12	<i>Hadj Ahmed</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 13(2)+14
	☞	CJEU	13 June 2013,	C-45/12	<i>Hadj Ahmed</i>	TFEU	Art. 18
	☞	CJEU	8 May 2013,	C-529/11	<i>Alarape & Tijani</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 10
	☞	CJEU	8 May 2013,	C-87/12	<i>Ymeraga</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 3(1)
	☞	CJEU	8 May 2013,	C-87/12	<i>Ymeraga</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
	☞	CJEU	6 Dec 2012,	C-356/11	<i>O., S. & L.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 3(1)
	☞	CJEU	6 Dec 2012,	C-356/11	<i>O., S. & L.</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
	☞	CJEU	8 Nov 2012,	C-40/11	<i>Iida</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
	☞	CJEU	6 Sep 2012,	C-147/11	<i>Czop & Punakova</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 16(1)

☞	CJEU	21 Dec 2011,	C-424/10	<i>Ziolkowski & Szeja</i>	FMofW Reg.	Art. 10
☞	CJEU	21 July 2011,	C-325/09	<i>Dias</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 16
☞	CJEU	5 May 2011,	C-434/09	<i>Shirley McCarthy</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 16
☞	CJEU	8 Mar 2011,	C-34/09	<i>Ruiz Zambrano</i>	TFEU	Art. 21
☞	CJEU	7 Oct 2010,	C-162/09	<i>Lassal</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	23 Feb 2010,	C-310/08	<i>Ibrahim</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 16
☞	CJEU	23 Feb 2010,	C-480/08	<i>Teixeira</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 10
					FMofW Reg.	Art. 10
	<i>CJEU pending cases</i>					
☞	CJEU	(pending)	C-131/25	<i>Dris</i>	TFEU	Art. 18+20+21
					Charter	Art. 14
☞	CJEU AG	4 Sep 2025,	C-147/24	<i>Safi</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	(pending)	C-279/25	<i>Land Badem-Württemberg</i>	TFEU	Art. 21(1)
☞	CJEU	(pending)	C-449/25	<i>Serviciul Pentru</i>	TFEU	Art. 21(1)
	<i>EFTA Advisory Opinions</i>					
☞	EFTA	26 July 2016,	E-28/15	<i>Jabbi v Imm. Appeals Board (NO)</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7(1)(b)+7(2)
☞	EFTA	26 July 2011,	E-4/11	<i>Clauder v Government (LI)</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 16(1)+7(1)
	See further details on these cases in § 7					

3 Equal Treatment

Cases on equal treatment of EU citizens and workers

case law sorted in chronological order

<i>CJEU judgments</i>						
New	☞	CJEU	12 Mar 2026,	C-43/24	<i>Shipova</i>	TFEU Citizens Dir. Charter Art. 8+21 Art. 4 Art. 7+45
New	☞	CJEU	12 Feb 2026,	C-48/24	<i>Vilniaus</i>	TFEU Art. 49
	☞	CJEU	18 Dec 2025,	C-296/24	<i>Jouxty et al.</i>	TFEU Art. 45 FMofW Reg. Art. 7(2)
New	☞	CJEU	11 Dec 2025,	C-789/23	<i>Tatrauské</i>	TFEU Art. 21(1)
	☞	CJEU	27 Nov 2025,	C-356/24	<i>Kärntner Land.</i>	TFEU Art. 45 FMofW Reg. Art. 7(1) Charter Art. 20
	☞	CJEU	2 Oct 2025,	C-573/24	<i>B/NiZzA</i>	Citizens Dir. Art. 24(1)
	☞	CJEU	1 Aug 2025,	C-397/23	<i>Jobcenter Arbeitplus Bielefeld</i>	TFEU Art. 18+20+21 Citizens Dir. Art. all
	☞	CJEU	10 July 2025,	C-257/24	<i>Städteregion Aachen</i>	TFEU Art. 45 FMofW Reg. Art. 7(2)
	☞	CJEU	16 Jan 2025,	C-277/23	<i>E.P.</i>	TFEU Art. 21(1)
	☞	CJEU	19 Nov 2024,	C-808/21	<i>Com. v Czech Rep.</i>	TFEU Art. 22
	☞	CJEU	4 Oct 2024,	C-650/22	<i>FIFA</i>	TFEU Art. 45
	☞	CJEU	29 July 2024,	C-112/22	<i>C.U. & N.D.</i>	TFEU Art. 18+45 FMofW Reg. Art. 7(2)
	☞	CJEU	21 Mar 2024,	C-61/22	<i>R.L. v Landesh. Wiesbaden (DE)</i>	Citizens Dir. Art. 4(3) ID Cards Reg. Art. 3(5)
	☞	CJEU	22 Feb 2024,	C-491/21	<i>W.A. v Dir. Persoanelor (RO)</i>	TFEU Art. 21 Citizens Dir. Art. 4
	☞	CJEU	21 Dec 2023,	C-488/21	<i>G.V. v Social Welfare (IE)</i>	FMofW Reg. Art. 7(2) TFEU Art. 21+45
	☞	CJEU	21 Dec 2023,	C-680/21	<i>Antwerp Football</i>	TFEU Art. 45
	☞	CJEU	5 Dec 2023,	C-128/22	<i>NORDIC</i>	Citizens Dir. Art. 4+5+27+29
	☞	CJEU	3 Oct 2023,	C-235/22	<i>Abel</i>	TFEU Art. 18+21 WA Art. 10
	☞	CJEU	15 June 2023,	C-411/22	<i>Thermalhotel</i>	FMofW Reg. Art. 7(2) TFEU Art. 45
	☞	CJEU	27 Apr 2023,	C-528/21	<i>M.D.</i>	TFEU Art. 20
	☞	CJEU	24 Mar 2023,	C-30/22	<i>D.V.</i>	WA Art. 30(2)+31(1)
	☞	CJEU	8 Dec 2022,	C-731/21	<i>G.V. v Caisse (LU)</i>	FMofW Reg. Art. 7(2)
	☞	CJEU	24 Nov 2022,	C-638/20	<i>M.C.M.</i>	FMofW Reg. Art. 7(2) TFEU Art. 45
	☞	CJEU	3 Nov 2022,	C-32/21	<i>Institut National</i>	WA Art. 2+3+10+12
	☞	CJEU	1 Aug 2022,	C-411/20	<i>S. v Familienkasse (DE)</i>	Citizens Dir. Art. 6+24(2) TFEU Art. 20
	☞	CJEU	28 Apr 2022,	C-86/21	<i>Delia</i>	TFEU Art. 45 FMofW Reg. Art. 7(2)
	☞	CJEU	26 Apr 2022,	C-368/20	<i>N.W. v Steiermark (AT)</i>	TFEU Art. 21(1)
	☞	CJEU	10 Mar 2022,	C-247/20	<i>V.I. v Customs (UK)</i>	Citizens Dir. Art. 7(1)+16 TFEU Art. 21
	☞	CJEU	15 July 2021,	C-535/19	<i>A. v Min. (LV)</i>	Citizens Dir. Art. 7(1)(b)+24
	☞	CJEU	15 July 2021,	C-709/20	<i>C.G. v N-IRL (UK)</i>	Citizens Dir. Art. 24
	☞	CJEU	22 June 2021,	C-718/19	<i>Ordre des barreaux</i>	TFEU Art. 20+21
	☞	CJEU	11 Feb 2021,	C-407/19	<i>Katoen Natie</i>	TFEU Art. 45
	☞	CJEU	19 Nov 2020,	C-454/19	<i>Z.W. v Heilbronn (DE)</i>	TFEU Art. 21

☞	CJEU	6 Oct 2020,	C-181/19	<i>Jobcenter Krefeld</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 24(2)
☞	CJEU	10 Oct 2019,	C-703/17	<i>Krah</i>	FMofW Reg.	Art. 10
☞	CJEU	13 Sep 2018,	C-618/16	<i>Rafal Prefeta</i>	TFEU	Art. 45
☞	CJEU	22 June 2017,	C-20/16	<i>Bechtel</i>	FMofW Reg.	Art. 7(1)
☞	CJEU	8 June 2017,	C-541/15	<i>Freitag</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7(2)+7(3)
☞	CJEU	15 Mar 2017,	C-3/16	<i>Aquino</i>	TFEU	Art. 45
☞	CJEU	15 Dec 2016,	C-401/15	<i>Depesme & Kerrou</i>	TFEU	Art. 18+21
☞	CJEU	14 Dec 2016,	C-238/15	<i>Brangança</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 28
☞	CJEU	6 Sep 2016,	C-182/15	<i>Petruhhin</i>	TFEU	Art. 267
☞	CJEU	14 June 2016,	C-308/14	<i>Com. v UK</i>	TFEU	Art. 45
☞	CJEU	2 June 2016,	C-233/14	<i>Com. v NL</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7(2)
☞	CJEU	25 Feb 2016,	C-299/14	<i>Garcia-Nieto</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7(2)
☞	CJEU	6 Oct 2015,	C-650/13	<i>Delvigne</i>	TFEU	Art. 7(2)
☞	CJEU	15 Sep 2015,	C-67/14	<i>Alimanovic</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 18+21
☞	CJEU	26 Feb 2015,	C-359/13	<i>Martens</i>	Charter	Art. 19
☞	CJEU	5 Feb 2015,	C-317/14	<i>Com. v BE</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7+14(2)+24(2)
☞	CJEU	11 Nov 2014,	C-333/13	<i>Dano a.o.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 24(2)
☞	CJEU	10 Sep 2014,	C-270/13	<i>Haralambidis</i>	TFEU	Art. 18+20
☞	CJEU	27 Mar 2014,	C-322/13	<i>Rüffer</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 24(2)
☞	CJEU	19 Sep 2013,	C-140/12	<i>Brey</i>	TFEU	Art. 20(2)(b)
☞	CJEU	18 June 2013,	C-523/11	<i>Prinz & Seeberger</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 24(2)
☞	CJEU	21 Feb 2013,	C-46/12	<i>L.N.</i>	FMofW Reg.	Art. 4
☞	CJEU	4 Oct 2012,	C-75/11	<i>Com. v AT</i>	TFEU	Art. 18+45
☞	CJEU	14 June 2012,	C-542/09	<i>Com. v NL</i>	TFEU	Art. 20+21
☞	CJEU	12 Mar 2011,	C-391/09	<i>Runevič-Vardyn</i>	TFEU	Art. 45
☞	CJEU	6 Oct 2009,	C-123/08	<i>Wolzenburg</i>	FMofW Reg.	Art. 7(2)
					TFEU	Art. 21
					TFEU	Art. 18

4 Loss of Rights

Cases on loss of residence rights or Union citizenship, expulsion and BREXIT

case law sorted in chronological order

CJEU judgments

☞	CJEU	29 Apr 2025,	C-181/23	<i>Com. v Malta</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	13 June 2024,	C-62/23	<i>Pedro Francisco</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 27
☞	CJEU	25 Apr 2024,	C-684/22	<i>S.Ö.</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	18 Apr 2024,	C-716/22	<i>E.P. v Prefet du Gers (FR)</i>	WA	Art. 2(c)
					TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	5 Sep 2023,	C-689/21	<i>X v ministeriet (DK)</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	6 July 2023,	C-285/22 P	<i>Juliën</i>	WA	Art. 16
☞	CJEU	9 June 2022,	C-673/20	<i>E.P. v Prefet (FR)</i>	WA	Art. 2+3+10+12
☞	CJEU	15 Mar 2022,	C-85/21	<i>W.Y. v Steiermark (AT)</i>	TFEU	Art. 21
☞	CJEU	18 Jan 2022,	C-118/20	<i>J.Y. v W. LReg. (AT)</i>	TFEU	Art. 20+21
☞	CJEU	29 Oct 2021,	C-206/21	<i>X. v Prefet (FR)</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7(1)(b)+8(4)
☞	CJEU	17 Dec 2020,	C-398/19	<i>B.Y.</i>	TFEU	Art. 18+21
☞	CJEU	10 Sep 2019,	C-94/18	<i>Chenchooliah</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 3+15+27+28+30+31
					TFEU	Art. 21
☞	CJEU	12 Mar 2019,	C-221/17	<i>Tjebbes</i>	TFEU	Art. 20+21
☞	CJEU	8 May 2018,	C-82/16	<i>K.A. a.o.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 27+28
					TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	2 May 2018,	C-331/16	<i>K. & H.F.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 27(2)+28(3)
☞	CJEU	17 Apr 2018,	C-316/16	<i>B. & Vomero</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 28(3)(a)
☞	CJEU	17 Sep 2017,	C-184/16	<i>Petrea</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 27+32
☞	CJEU	13 July 2017,	C-193/16	<i>E.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 27
☞	CJEU	13 Sep 2016,	C-304/14	<i>C.S.</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	17 Mar 2016,	C-161/15	<i>Bensada Benallal</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 28+30+31
☞	CJEU	16 Jan 2014,	C-378/12	<i>Onuekwere</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 16
☞	CJEU	16 Jan 2014,	C-400/12	<i>M.G.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 28(3)(a)
☞	CJEU	4 June 2013,	C-300/11	<i>Z.Z.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 30(2)+31
☞	CJEU	22 May 2012,	C-348/09	<i>P.I.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 28(3)
☞	CJEU	23 Nov 2010,	C-145/09	<i>Tsakouridis</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 28(3)
☞	CJEU	2 Mar 2010,	C-135/08	<i>Rottmann</i>	TFEU	Art. 20

CJEU pending cases

☞	CJEU	(pending)	C-906/24	<i>Sirto</i>	TFEU	Art. 18+20+21
☞	CJEU	(pending)	C-460/25	<i>Makran</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 16+35
☞	CJEU AG	15 Jan 2026,	C-560/24	<i>Besthame</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 35

EFTA Advisory Opinions

☞	EFTA	9 Feb 2021,	E-1/20	<i>Kerim v Government (NO)</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 35
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See further details on these cases in § 7

5 Family Members

Cases on (third-country national) family members of European Union citizens

case law sorted in chronological order

CJEU judgments

☞	CJEU	25 Nov 2025,	C-713/23	<i>Wojewoda Mazowiecki</i>	TFEU	Art. 20+21
☞	CJEU	10 Apr 2025,	C-607/21	<i>X.X.X. v State (BE)</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 2(2)(d)
☞	CJEU	2 Feb 2024,	C-323/23	<i>Pensionsversicherungsanstalt</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7
☞	CJEU	21 Dec 2023,	C-488/21	<i>G.V. v Social Welfare (IE)</i>	FMofW Reg.	Art. 7(2)
					TFEU	Art. 21+45
☞	CJEU	22 June 2023,	C-459/20	<i>X. v Stscr. (NL)</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	10 Mar 2023,	C-248/22	<i>Z.K. & M.S.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 2(2)+3(2)
					TFEU	Art. 3
☞	CJEU	15 Sep 2022,	C-22/21	<i>S.R.S. & A.A. v Justice (IE)</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 3
☞	CJEU	7 Sep 2022,	C-624/20	<i>E.K. v Stscr. (NL)</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	5 May 2022,	C-451/19	<i>X.U. & Q.P. v Toledo (ES)</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	14 Dec 2021,	C-490/20	<i>V.M.A. v Pancharevo (BU)</i>	TFEU	Art. 18+20+21
					Charter	Art. 24(2)
☞	CJEU	18 June 2020,	C-754/18	<i>Ryan Air</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 5(2)+20
☞	CJEU	10 Sep 2019,	C-94/18	<i>Chenchooliah</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 3+15+27+28+30+31
					TFEU	Art. 21
☞	CJEU	26 Mar 2019,	C-129/18	<i>S.M.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 2(2)+3(2)
					Charter	Art. 24(2)
☞	CJEU	12 July 2018,	C-89/17	<i>Banger</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 3(2)+15(1)
					TFEU	Art. 21
☞	CJEU	27 June 2018,	C-230/17	<i>Deha-Altiner & Ravn</i>	TFEU	Art. 21(1)
☞	CJEU	27 June 2018,	C-246/17	<i>Diallo</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 10(1)
☞	CJEU	5 June 2018,	C-673/16	<i>Coman a.o.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 2(2)(a)+3
☞	CJEU	14 Nov 2017,	C-165/16	<i>Lounes</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 3(1)+7+16
					TFEU	Art. 21
☞	CJEU	10 May 2017,	C-133/15	<i>Chavez-Vilchez</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	13 Sep 2016,	C-165/14	<i>Rendón Marín</i>	TFEU	Art. 20+21
☞	CJEU	13 Sep 2016,	C-304/14	<i>C.S.</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	26 July 2015,	C-218/14	<i>Kuldip Singh a.o.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 7(1)(b)+13(2)(a)
☞	CJEU	18 Dec 2014,	C-202/13	<i>Sean McCarthy</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 5+10+35
☞	CJEU	12 Mar 2014,	C-456/12	<i>O. & B.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 3+6+7
					TFEU	Art. 20+21
☞	CJEU	12 Mar 2014,	C-457/12	<i>S. & G.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 3+6+7
					TFEU	Art. 20+21
☞	CJEU	16 Jan 2014,	C-423/12	<i>Reyes</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 2(2)(c)
☞	CJEU	8 May 2013,	C-529/11	<i>Alarape & Tijani</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 10
☞	CJEU	8 May 2013,	C-87/12	<i>Ymeraga</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 3(1)
					TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	6 Dec 2012,	C-356/11	<i>O., S. & L.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 3(1)
					TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	8 Nov 2012,	C-40/11	<i>Iida</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	6 Sep 2012,	C-147/11	<i>Czop & Punakova</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 16(1)
					FMofW Reg.	Art. 10
☞	CJEU	5 Sep 2012,	C-83/11	<i>Rahman a.o.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 3(2)
☞	CJEU	15 Nov 2011,	C-256/11	<i>Dereci</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	5 May 2011,	C-434/09	<i>Shirley McCarthy</i>	TFEU	Art. 21
☞	CJEU	8 Mar 2011,	C-34/09	<i>Ruiz Zambrano</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
☞	CJEU	19 Dec 2008,	C-551/07	<i>Deniz Sahin</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 3+6+7
☞	CJEU	25 July 2008,	C-127/08	<i>Metock</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 3(1)

CJEU pending cases

5: Family Members

	☞	CJEU AG	4 Sep 2025,	C-147/24	<i>Safi</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
	☞	CJEU	(pending)	C-449/25	<i>Serviciul Pentru</i>	TFEU	Art. 21(1)
New	☞	CJEU	(pending)	C-628/25	<i>Crossryn</i>	WA	Art. 10(1)+17(2)
						Citizens Dir.	Art. 2(2)
New	☞	CJEU	(pending)	C-653/25	<i>E.M.</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
						Charter	Art. 47
	☞	CJEU	(pending)	C-892/24	<i>Eur. Com. v UK</i>	WA	all Art.
							See further details on these cases in § 7

6 Procedural Rights

Cases on procedural rights, guarantees and miscellaneous

case law sorted in chronological order

CJEU judgments

	☞	CJEU	7 May 2024,	C-280/22	<i>Kinderrechtencoalitie</i>	TFEU	Art. 16+21
						ID Cards Reg.	Art. 3(5)+6+14
	☞	CJEU	25 Apr 2024,	C-420/22	<i>N.W. & P.Q.</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
	☞	CJEU	10 Sep 2019,	C-94/18	<i>Chenchooliah</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 3+15+27+28+30+31
						TFEU	Art. 21
	☞	CJEU	17 Sep 2017,	C-184/16	<i>Petrea</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 27+32
	☞	CJEU	15 Mar 2017,	C-3/16	<i>Aquino</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 28
						TFEU	Art. 267
	☞	CJEU	17 Mar 2016,	C-161/15	<i>Bensada Benallal</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 28+30+31
	☞	CJEU	4 June 2013,	C-300/11	<i>Z.Z.</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 30(2)+31
	☞	CJEU	4 Oct 2012,	C-249/11	<i>Byankov</i>	Citizens Dir.	Art. 27

CJEU pending cases

	☞	CJEU AG	26 Jun 2025,	C-767/23	<i>Remling</i>	TFEU	Art. 20
							See further details on these cases in § 7

7 Case Law

§ 7.1 CJEU judgments

§ 7.2 CJEU pending cases

§ 7.3 EFTA advisory opinions

§ 7.4 EFTA pending cases

case law sorted in alphabetical order

7.1 CJEU Judgments

- ☞ [CJEU 15 July 2021, C-535/19](#) *A. v Min. (LV)* EU:C:2021:595
AG 11 Feb 2021 EU:C:2021:114
- * Art. 7(1)(b)+24 Citizens Dir. Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Augustas tiesa (Supreme Court), Latvia, 9 July 2019
- * *The Court is asked whether publicly funded health care can be classed as ‘sickness benefits’. And if so, whether MS are permitted to refuse Union citizens who do not, at that time, have worker status, if such benefits — which are granted to their nationals and the family members of a Union citizen with worker status who are in the same situation — in order to avoid disproportionate requests for social benefits that will affect the availability of health care.*
The CJEU confirmed the right of economically inactive EU citizens who have exercised their free movement rights, to be affiliated to the compulsory public sickness insurance system of their host-Member State. The difference in treatment between, on the one hand, an Italian national A, who was lawfully resident in Latvia on the basis of Art. 7(1)(b) Dir. 2004/38 and who could rely on Art. 24(1), and, on the other hand, economically inactive Latvian nationals, the CJEU found cannot be justified by a legitimate objective, i.e. the protection of public finances, and is not proportionate. However, to prevent economically inactive EU citizens from becoming an unreasonable burden on the public finances of the host-MS access to a MS’s compulsory public health system does not have to come free of charge
- ☞ [CJEU 6 Oct. 2021, C-35/20](#) *A. v Syyttäjä (FI)* EU:C:2021:813
AG 3 Jun 2021 EU:C:2021:456
- * Art. 21(1) TFEU Subject: Exit and Entry
Ref. from Korkein oikeus, Finland, 24 Jan. 2020
- * *The right of Union citizens to free movement must, be interpreted as not precluding national legislation by which a MS obliges its nationals, on pain of criminal penalties, to carry a valid identity card or passport when travelling to another MS, by whatever means of transport and by whatever route, provided that the detailed rules for those penalties comply with the general principles of EU law, including those of proportionality and non-discrimination.*
The right of Union citizens to freedom of movement must be interpreted as not precluding national legislation by which a MS requires its nationals to carry a valid identity card or passport, on pain of criminal sanctions, when they enter its territory from another MS, provided that that obligation does not make the right of entry conditional and that the detailed rules on penalties for failure to comply with that obligation comply with the general principles of EU law, including those of proportionality and non-discrimination. A journey to the MS concerned from another MS made on board a pleasure boat and through international waters is listed, under the conditions laid down in the second paragraph of point 3.2.5 of Annex VI to that regulation, among the cases in which the submission of such a document may be requested.
Art. 21(1) TFEU and Art. 4 + 36 of Dir. 2004/38, read in the light of Art. 49(3) of the Charter, must be interpreted as precluding rules on criminal sanctions by which a MS makes the crossing of its national border without a valid identity card or passport punishable by a fine which may, by way of example, amount to 20% of the offender’s net monthly income, where such a fine is not proportionate to the seriousness of the offence, which is of a minor nature.
The CJEU confirmed its consistent case law that MSs may oblige their own nationals to carry a valid identity card or passport when they cross the internal border in order to travel to and from another MS. Violations of this obligation may be penalised under criminal law as long as the sanction is proportional and non-discriminatory. A financial sanction that amounts 20% of the offender’s net monthly income, the Court labels as disproportionate to the seriousness of the offence, which it qualifies as ‘minor by nature’.
- ☞ [CJEU 22 Jan. 2020, C-32/19](#) *A.T.* EU:C:2020:25
Art. 17(1)(a) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Ref. from Oberster Gerichtshof, Austria, 18 Jan. 2019
- * *Article 17(1)(a) must be interpreted as meaning that, for the purpose of acquiring the right of permanent residence in the host Member State before completion of a continuous period of 5 years of residence, the conditions that a person must have been working in that Member State at least for the preceding 12 months and must have resided in that Member State continuously for more than 3 years apply to workers who, at the time they stop working, have reached the age laid down by the law of that Member State for entitlement to an old age pension.*
The CJEU ruled that for the purpose of acquiring a right of permanent residence before completion of a continuous period of 5 years of residence in Art. 17(1)(a) Dir. 2004/38, workers must satisfy cumulatively the two conditions set out in that provision, namely:
(a) they must have worked in their host MS during - at least - the preceding 12 months; and
(b) they must have resided in that MS continuously for more than 3 years.
The mere fact that a worker, at the time that she stops working, has reached the legal age that entitles her to an old age pension in the host MS is irrelevant in the context of Art. 17(1)(a) Dir. 2004/38.
- ☞ [CJEU 3 Oct. 2023, C-235/22](#) *Abel* EU:C:2023:730
Art. 18+21 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. 10 WA
Ref. from Audiencia Nacional, Spain, 28 Mar. 2022
- * *This case is about the interpretation of the Withdrawal Agreement (Brexit) and in particular about the question whether the information and cooperation mechanism, enshrined in CJEU case law (such as C-182/15, C-191/16, C-897/16), applies in the context of the extradition, to a third country, of a United Kingdom national who has exercised his right of free movement in a MS of the Union before the entry into force of the withdrawal agreement, on 1 Feb. 2020, when, in that MS, the extradition of its own nationals outside the Union is possible. This question, however, is irrelevant because mr Abel is already extradited to the US. Case dismissed.*

- ☞ [CJEU 17 Nov. 2011, C-434/10](#) *Aladzhov* EU:C:2011:750
AG 6 Sep 2011 EU:C:2011:547
- * Art. 4+27 Citizens Dir. Subject: Exit and Entry
Ref. from Administrativen sad Sofia-grad, Bulgaria, 6 Sep. 2010
- * *Even if a measure imposing a prohibition on leaving the territory has been adopted under the conditions laid down in Article 27(1), the conditions laid down in Article 27(2) thereof preclude such a measure:*
– *if it is founded solely on the existence of the tax liability of the company of which he is one of the joint managers, and on the basis of that status alone, without any specific assessment of the personal conduct of the person concerned and with no reference to any threat of any kind which he represents to public policy, and*
– *if the prohibition on leaving the territory is not appropriate to ensure the achievement of the objective it pursues and goes beyond what is necessary to attain it.*
- ☞ [CJEU 8 May 2013, C-529/11](#) *Alarape & Tijani* EU:C:2013:290
AG 15 Jan 2013 EU:C:2013:9
- * Art. 10 Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Ref. from Upper Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber), UK, 17 Sep. 2011 and Family Members
- * *The parent of a child who has attained the age of majority and who has obtained access to education on the basis of Article 12 of Regulation 1612/68 as amended by Directive 2004/38, may continue to have a derived right of residence under that article if that child remains in need of the presence and care of that parent in order to be able to continue and to complete his or her education, which it is for the referring court to assess, taking into account all the circumstances of the case before it.*
Periods of residence in a host Member State which are completed by family members of a Union citizen who are not nationals of a Member State solely on the basis of Article 12 of Regulation 1612/68, as amended by Directive 2004/38, where the conditions laid down for entitlement to a right of residence under that directive are not satisfied, may not be taken into consideration for the purposes of acquisition by those family members of a right of permanent residence under that directive.
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 15 Sep. 2015, C-67/14](#) *Alimanovic* EU:C:2015:597
AG 26 Mar 2015 EU:C:2015:210
- * Art. 24(2) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Art. 4 FMofW Reg. and Equal Treatment
Art. 18+45 TFEU
Ref. from Bundessozialgericht, Germany, 10 Feb. 2014
- * *Article 24 of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as not precluding legislation of a Member State under which nationals of other Member States who are in a situation such as that referred to in Article 14(4)(b) of that directive are excluded from entitlement to certain ‘special non-contributory cash benefits’ within the meaning of Article 70(2) of Regulation No 883/2004, which also constitute ‘social assistance’ within the meaning of Article 24(2) of Directive 2004/38, although those benefits are granted to nationals of the Member State concerned who are in the same situation.*
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 21 Dec. 2023, C-680/21](#) *Antwerp Football* EU:C:2023:1010
AG 9 Mar 2023 EU:C:2023:188
- * Art. 45 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Court of First Instance, Brussels, Belgium, 15 Oct. 2021
- * *This case concerns the compatibility of the UEFA and the Belgian Football Association rules on ‘home-grown’ players with Art. 101 (competition) and Art. 45 TFEU. This is not the first time that the CJEU was asked to rule if the UEFA regulations which require professional football clubs to use a minimum of ‘home-grown’ players amount to unjustified indirect discrimination since they restrict the free movement of EU workers (e.g. Bosman judgment C-415/93). The Court finds that in principle Article 45 TFEU precludes measures that require football associations to field a minimum number of players trained in the territorial jurisdiction of that association. However, such measures can be justified if they are suitable for ensuring in a consistent and systemic manner the attainment of the objective of encouraging at the local level the recruitment and training of young professional football players and will not go beyond what is necessary to achieve this objective. In deciding on the proportionality and justification issues, the national court is instructed to pay attention to the fact that by placing on the same footing any young player who has been trained by a club from the same national association, the rules may incentivise large clubs to free ride by buying their home grown players from other national teams.*
- ☞ [CJEU 15 Mar. 2017, C-3/16](#) *Aquino* EU:C:2017:209
- * Art. 28 Citizens Dir. Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. 267 TFEU and Procedural Rights
Ref. from Hof van beroep te Brussel, Belgium, 4 Jan. 2016
- * *The third paragraph of Article 267 TFEU must be interpreted as meaning that a court against whose decisions there is a judicial remedy under national law may not be regarded as a court adjudicating at last instance, where an appeal on a point of law against a decision of that court is not examined because of discontinuance by the appellant.*
The third paragraph of Article 267 TFEU must be interpreted as meaning that a court adjudicating at last instance may decline to refer a question to the Court for a preliminary ruling where an appeal on a point of law is dismissed on grounds of inadmissibility specific to the procedure before that court, subject to compliance with the principles of equivalence and effectiveness.

- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 17 Apr. 2018, C-316/16](#) **B. & Vomero** EU:C:2018:296
AG 24 Oct 2017 EU:C:2017:797
- * Art. 28(3)(a) Citizens Dir. Subject: Loss of Rights
Ref. from Verwaltungsgerichtshof Baden-Württemberg, Germany, 3 June 2016
- * *Article 28(3)(a) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that it is a prerequisite of eligibility for the protection against expulsion provided for in that provision that the person concerned must have a right of permanent residence within the meaning of Article 16 and Article 28(2) of that directive.*
Article 28(3)(a) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that, in the case of a Union citizen who is serving a custodial sentence and against whom an expulsion decision is adopted, the condition of having 'resided in the host Member State for the previous ten years' laid down in that provision may be satisfied where an overall assessment of the person's situation, taking into account all the relevant aspects, leads to the conclusion that, notwithstanding that detention, the integrative links between the person concerned and the host Member State have not been broken. Those aspects include, inter alia, the strength of the integrative links forged with the host Member State before the detention of the person concerned, the nature of the offence that resulted in the period of detention imposed, the circumstances in which that offence was committed and the conduct of the person concerned throughout the period of detention.
Article 28(3)(a) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that the question whether a person satisfies the condition of having 'resided in the host Member State for the previous ten years', within the meaning of that provision, must be assessed at the date on which the initial expulsion decision is adopted.
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 17 Dec. 2020, C-398/19](#) **B. Y.** EU:C:2020:1032
AG 24 Sep 2020 EU:C:2020:748
- * Art. 18+21 TFEU Subject: Residence
Ref. from Kammergericht Berlin, Germany, 23 May 2019 and Loss of Rights
- * *The CJEU clarifies the obligations of a MS (Germany) when a third-State (Ukraine) makes an extradition request concerning an EU citizen (Ukrainian-Romanian national) resident on its territory. Firstly, the CJEU ruled that Arts 18 and 21 TFEU are applicable to the extradition request concerning an EU citizen irrespective of the moment when he acquired that citizenship.*
Secondly, the MS receiving the extradition request must inform the EU citizen's State of nationality of the third State's request, including all the elements of fact and law communicated by the third State and of any changes in the situation of the requested person that may be relevant to the possibility of issuing a European Arrest Warrant (EAW). Where the State of nationality fails to issue an EAW within a reasonable time limit, as set by the requested State, the latter may extradite the EU citizen without having to wait for the State of nationality to waive an EAW through a formal decision.
Thirdly, Arts 18 and 21 TFEU only oblige the requested MS to decide whether surrender to the State of nationality is less prejudicial to the EU citizen's right to free movement than extradition to a third State. They do not oblige the requested State to refuse extradition and conduct the criminal prosecution itself, even if this possibility exists under national law.
- ☞ [CJEU 2 Oct. 2025, C-573/24](#) **B/NiZzA** EU:C:2025:747
- * Art. 24(1) Citizens Dir. Subject: Equal Treatment
- * *This case concerns a refusal to grant a third-country national family member of an EU citizen a licence to practice medicine in her MS of residence. After establishing that art. 2(1) Dir. 2005/36/EC (recognition of professional qualifications) restricts its personal scope to Member State nationals, the CJEU considers whether, by virtue of the principle of equal treatment in art. 24(1) Dir. 2004/38/EC, MSs have to apply Dir. 2005/36/EC to applications for recognition of professional qualifications made by third-country national family members who enjoy a right of residence under the Citizens Dir. The CJEU confirms its case law on art. 3(1) Dir. 2004/38/EC that the Citizens Dir. can only be relied on by third-country national family members in a MS other than the MS of which the EU citizen, from whom they derive their right to remain, is a national. As the EU citizen is not a beneficiary of the Citizens Dir. in the MS of which he is a national, third-country national family members are also not a beneficiary of that directive and cannot, therefore, rely on the principle of equal treatment in art. 24(1) Citizens Dir. to challenge a decision to recognise their professional qualifications.*
- ☞ [CJEU 2 Oct. 2019, C-93/18](#) **Bajratari** EU:C:2019:809
AG 19 Jun 2019 EU:C:2019:512
- * Art. 7(1)(b) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Ref. from Court of Appeal in Northern Ireland, UK, 9 Feb. 2018
- * *In this case the CJEU ruled that a minor Union citizen can have sufficient resources (within the meaning of Art. 7(1)(b) Citizens Directive) even if these resources are derived from an income obtained from unlawful employment of his father. This judgment implies that the focus of 'sufficient resources' is on the quantity, i.e. sufficient not to become an unreasonable burden on the host-Member States financial resources. The origin of these resources is irrelevant. Thus, there is no obligation to make a distinction between lawful and unlawful employment or the origin of these resources. Also, the qualification of lawful or unlawful employment has no bearing on the withdrawal or granting of the right of residence in the context of the Citizens directive.*

- ☞ [CJEU 12 July 2018, C-89/17](#) **Banger** EU:C:2018:570
AG 10 Apr 2018 EU:C:2018:225
- * Art. 3(2)+15(1) Citizens Dir. Subject: Family Members
Art. 21 TFEU
Ref. from Upper Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber), UK, 20 Feb. 2017
- * *Article 21(1) TFEU must be interpreted as requiring the Member State of which a Union citizen is a national to facilitate the provision of a residence authorisation to the unregistered partner, a third-country national with whom that Union citizen has a durable relationship that is duly attested, where the Union citizen, having exercised his right of freedom of movement to work in a second Member State, in accordance with the conditions laid down in Directive 2004/38, returns with his partner to the Member State of which he is a national in order to reside there.*
Article 21(1) TFEU must be interpreted as meaning that a decision to refuse a residence authorisation to the third-country national and unregistered partner of a Union citizen, where that Union citizen, having exercised his right of freedom of movement to work in a second Member State, in accordance with the conditions laid down in Directive 2004/38, returns with his partner to the Member State of which he is a national in order to reside there, must be founded on an extensive examination of the applicant's personal circumstances and be justified by reasons.
Article 3(2) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that the third-country nationals envisaged in that provision must have available to them a redress procedure in order to challenge a decision to refuse a residence authorisation taken against them, following which the national court must be able to ascertain whether the refusal decision is based on a sufficiently solid factual basis and whether the procedural safeguards were complied with. Those safeguards include the obligation for the competent national authorities to undertake an extensive examination of the applicant's personal circumstances and to justify any denial of entry or residence.
- ☞ [CJEU 22 June 2017, C-20/16](#) **Bechtel** EU:C:2017:488
Art. 45 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Bundesfinanzhof, Germany, 15 Jan. 2016
- * *Article 45 TFEU must be interpreted to the effect that it precludes legislation of a Member State, such as that at issue in the main proceedings, under which a taxpayer residing in that Member State and working for the public administration of another Member State may not deduct from the income tax basis of assessment in her Member State of residence the pension and health insurance contributions deducted from her wages in the Member State of employment, in contrast to comparable contributions paid to the social security fund of her Member State of residence, where, under the Convention for the avoidance of double taxation between the two Member States, the wages must not be taxed in the worker's Member State of residence and merely increase the tax rate to be applied to other income.*
- ☞ [CJEU 17 Mar. 2016, C-161/15](#) **Bensada Benallal** EU:C:2016:175
AG 13 Jan 2016 EU:C:2016:3
Art. 28+30+31 Citizens Dir. Subject: Loss of Rights
Ref. from Conseil d'État, France, 9 Apr. 2015 and Procedural Rights
- * *EU law must be interpreted as meaning that where, in accordance with the applicable national law, a plea alleging infringement of national law raised for the first time before the national court hearing an appeal on a point of law is admissible only if that plea is based on public policy, a plea alleging infringement of the right to be heard, as guaranteed by EU law, raised for the first time before that same court, must be held to be admissible if that right, as guaranteed by national law, satisfies the conditions required by national law for it to be classified as a plea based on public policy, this being a matter for the referring court to determine.*
- ☞ [CJEU 14 Dec. 2016, C-238/15](#) **Brangança** EU:C:2016:949
AG 2 Jun 2016 EU:C:2016:389
Art. 7(2) Citizens Dir. Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Tribunal administratif, France, 2 June 2016
- * *Article 7(2) of Regulation 492/2011 must be interpreted as precluding legislation of a Member State, such as that at issue in the main proceedings, which, with the aim of encouraging an increase in the proportion of residents with a higher education degree, makes the grant of financial aid for higher education studies to a non-resident student conditional on at least one of that student's parents having worked in that Member State for a minimum and continuous period of five years at the time the application for financial aid is made, but which does not lay down such a condition in respect of a student residing in the territory of that Member State.*
- ☞ [CJEU 19 Sep. 2013, C-140/12](#) **Brey** EU:C:2013:565
AG 29 May 2013 EU:C:2013:337
Art. 7(1)(b) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Ref. from Oberster Gerichtshof, Austria, 19 Mar. 2012 and Equal Treatment
- * *EU law – in particular, as it results from Article 7(1)(b), Article 8(4) and Article 24(1) and (2) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as precluding national legislation, such as that at issue in the main proceedings, which, even as regards the period following the first three months of residence, automatically – whatever the circumstances – bars the grant of a benefit, such as the compensatory supplement provided for in Paragraph 292(1) of the Federal Act on General Social Insurance (Allgemeines Sozialversicherungsgesetz), as amended, from 1 January 2011, by the 2011 Budget Act (Budgetbegleitgesetz 2011), to a national of another Member State who is not economically active, on the grounds that, despite having been issued with a certificate of residence, he does not meet the necessary requirements for obtaining the legal right to reside on the territory of the first Member State for a period of longer than three months, since obtaining that right of residence is conditional upon that national having sufficient resources not to apply for the benefit.*

- ☞ [CJEU 4 Oct. 2012, C-249/11](#) **Byankov** EU:C:2012:608
AG 21 Jun 2012 EU:C:2012:380
- * Art. 27 Citizens Dir. Subject: Exit and Entry
Ref. from Administrativen sad Sofia-grad, Bulgaria, 19 May 2011 and Procedural Rights
- * *European Union law must be interpreted as precluding the application of a national provision which provides for the imposition of a restriction on the freedom of movement, within the European Union, of a national of a Member State, solely on the ground that he owes a legal person governed by private law a debt which exceeds a statutory threshold and is unsecured.*
- European Union law must be interpreted as precluding legislation of a Member State under which an administrative procedure that has resulted in the adoption of a prohibition on leaving the territory, may be reopened — in the event of the prohibition being clearly contrary to European Union law — only in circumstances such as those exhaustively listed in Article 99 of the Code of Administrative Procedure (Administrativnoprotsesualen kodeks), despite the fact that such a prohibition continues to produce legal effects with regard to its addressee.*
- ☞ [CJEU 15 July 2021, C-709/20](#) **C.G. v N-IRL (UK)** EU:C:2021:602
AG 24 Jun 2021 EU:C:2021:515
- * Art. 24 Citizens Dir. Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Appeal Tribunal for Northern Ireland, UK, 30 Dec. 2020
- * *This case concerns an EU citizen in Northern Ireland who holds a temporary leave to remain, which does not give access to social assistance. According to the Advocate General the question referred to the CJEU concerns, in essence, the protection owed to an EU citizen with respect to access to social assistance, in application of the principle of equal treatment, when the host MS has granted her a right of residence, based on national law, where the conditions in national law are more favourable than those in Directive 2004/38.*
- The AG had advised the CJEU to qualify the refusal of social assistance by a MS to an economically inactive national of another MS on the sole basis of his or her right of residence, as indirect discrimination on the ground of nationality and instruct the referring court to ascertain whether this is the case and if so, whether the national legislation is disproportional as it goes beyond what is necessary to maintain the equilibrium of the social assistance system of the host MS.*
- The CJEU, however, decided otherwise. It found that the UK legislation on Universal Credit, which deprives Union citizens who have a right to reside on the basis of the scheme established in the context of Brexit but who do not satisfy all of the conditions of Dir. 2004/38, from this benefit is compatible with the principle of equal treatment as guaranteed by EU law. The CJEU instructed the competent national authorities to check whether a refusal to grant social assistance under this scheme does not expose the Union citizen and his or her children to a risk of an infringement of their rights enshrined in the Charter, in particular the right to respect for human dignity and private and family life and the rights of the child. In the context of that examination, those authorities may take into account all means of assistance provided for by national law from which the citizen concerned and her children are actually entitled to benefit.*
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 13 Sep. 2016, C-304/14](#) **C.S.** EU:C:2016:674
AG 4 Feb 2016 EU:C:2016:75
- * Art. 20 TFEU Subject: Loss of Rights
Ref. from Upper Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber), UK, 24 June 2014 and Family Members
- * *Article 20 TFEU must be interpreted as precluding legislation of a Member State which requires a third-country national who has been convicted of a criminal offence to be expelled from the territory of that Member State to a third country notwithstanding the fact that that national is the primary carer of a young child who is a national of that Member State, in which he has been residing since birth without having exercised his right of freedom of movement, when the expulsion of the person concerned would require the child to leave the territory of the European Union, thereby depriving him of the genuine enjoyment of the substance of his rights as a Union citizen. However, in exceptional circumstances a Member State may adopt an expulsion measure provided that it is founded on the personal conduct of that third-country national, which must constitute a genuine, present and sufficiently serious threat adversely affecting one of the fundamental interests of the society of that Member State, and that it is based on consideration of the various interests involved, matters which are for the national court to determine.*
- ☞ [CJEU 29 July 2024, C-112/22](#) **C.U. & N.D.** EU:C:2024:636
AG 25 Jan 2024 EU:C:2024:79
- * Art. 18+45 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. 7(2) FMofW Reg.
Ref. from Tribunale di Napoli, Italy, 17 Feb. 2022
joined cases: C-112/22+C-223/22
- * *This case concerns the introduction in Italy of a 10-years residence condition for entitlement to a basic income, intended to ensure a minimum level of subsistence.*
- The CJEU ruled that it precludes legislation of a Member State which makes access for third-country nationals who are long-term residents to a social security, social assistance or social protection measure conditional on the requirement, which also applies to nationals of that Member State, of having resided in that Member State for at least 10 years, the final 2 years of which must be consecutive, and which provides for a criminal penalty for any false declaration regarding that residency condition.*
- The initial prejudicial question focussed on the interpretation of art. 18 + 45 TFEU. However, the CJEU mentions (in par. 32) that these articles are not relevant in this context. The (only) article that is relevant is Art. 11(1)(d) of the Long-Term Residents Dir.*

- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 10 May 2017, C-133/15](#) **Chavez-Vilchez** EU:C:2017:354
AG 8 Sep 2016 EU:C:2016:659
- * Art. 20 TFEU Subject: Residence
Ref. from Centrale Raad van Beroep, Netherlands, 18 Mar. 2015 and Family Members
- * *Article 20 TFEU must be interpreted as meaning that for the purposes of assessing whether a child who is a citizen of the European Union would be compelled to leave the territory of the European Union as a whole and thereby deprived of the genuine enjoyment of the substance of the rights conferred on him by that article if the child's third-country national parent were refused a right of residence in the Member State concerned, the fact that the other parent, who is a Union citizen, is actually able and willing to assume sole responsibility for the primary day-to-day care of the child is a relevant factor, but it is not in itself a sufficient ground for a conclusion that there is not, between the third-country national parent and the child, such a relationship of dependency that the child would indeed be so compelled were there to be such a refusal of a right of residence. Such an assessment must take into account, in the best interests of the child concerned, all the specific circumstances, including the age of the child, the child's physical and emotional development, the extent of his emotional ties both to the Union citizen parent and to the third-country national parent, and the risks which separation from the latter might entail for the child's equilibrium.*
Article 20 TFEU must be interpreted as not precluding a Member State from providing that the right of residence in its territory of a third-country national, who is a parent of a minor child that is a national of that Member State and who is responsible for the primary day-to-day care of that child, is subject to the requirement that the third-country national must provide evidence to prove that a refusal of a right of residence to the third-country national parent would deprive the child of the genuine enjoyment of the substance of the rights pertaining to the child's status as a Union citizen, by obliging the child to leave the territory of the European Union, as a whole. It is however for the competent authorities of the Member State concerned to undertake, on the basis of the evidence provided by the third-country national, the necessary enquiries in order to be able to assess, in the light of all the specific circumstances, whether a refusal would have such consequences.
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 10 Sep. 2019, C-94/18](#) **Chenchooliah** EU:C:2019:693
AG 21 May 2019 EU:C:2019:433
- * Art. 3+15+27+28+30+31 Citizens Dir. Subject: Loss of Rights
Art. 21 TFEU and Family Members
Ref. from High Court, Ireland, 12 Feb. 2018
- * *The Court ruled that Art. 15 of Dir. 2004/38 applies to the decision to expel a TCN on the ground that this person no longer has a right of residence under the Directive where that TCN married an EU citizen who, at the time, was exercising his right to freedom of movement and where the EU citizen subsequently returns to the State of his nationality. The procedural guarantees laid down in Arts. 30 and 31 of Dir. 2004/38 apply by analogy and subject to the necessary adjustments to such a TCN family member whom the host State wishes to expel on grounds of unlawful residence. The Court clarifies that the right of residence of a TCN family member who has resided with an EU citizen on the basis of Art. 6 of Dir. 2004/38 in a host State, is lost if he no longer resides in the host State with the EU citizen.*
Directive 2004/38, more importantly its procedural rights, however still govern any decision to expel that TCN family member by the host State authorities. The words 'by analogy' in Art. 15 Dir. 2004/38 mean that Arts. 30 and 31 Dir. 2004/38 apply to such decisions to the extent that these provisions also apply to expulsion decisions made on grounds of public policy, public security or public health and subject to the necessary adjustments. Art. 15(3) Dir. 2004/38 explicitly prohibits imposing an entry ban if the expulsion decision concerns a situation of loss of residence rights.
In this case the question is: what procedural rights do TCN family members of EU citizens enjoy in expulsion cases when they no longer qualify as a beneficiary of Dir. 2004/38/EC because the EU citizen from which they derive their rights no longer resides in the host State?
The Court ruled that Art. 15 of Dir. 2004/38 applies to the decision to expel a TCN on the ground that this person no longer has a right of residence under the Directive where that TCN married an EU citizen who, at the time, was exercising his right to freedom of movement and where the EU citizen subsequently returns to the State of his nationality. The procedural guarantees laid down in Arts. 30 and 31 of Dir. 2004/38 apply by analogy and subject to the necessary adjustments to such a TCN family member whom the host State wishes to expel on grounds of unlawful residence. The Court clarifies that the right of residence of a TCN family member who has resided with an EU citizen on the basis of Art. 6 of Dir. 2004/38 in a host State, is lost if he no longer resides in the host State with the EU citizen.
Directive 2004/38, more importantly its procedural rights, however still govern any decision to expel that TCN family member by the host State authorities. The words 'by analogy' in Art. 15 Dir. 2004/38 mean that Arts. 30 and 31 Dir. 2004/38 apply to such decisions to the extent that these provisions also apply to expulsion decisions made on grounds of public policy, public security or public health and subject to the necessary adjustments. Art. 15(3) Dir. 2004/38 explicitly prohibits imposing an entry ban if the expulsion decision concerns a situation of loss of residence rights.
- ☞ [CJEU 14 June 2016, C-308/14](#) **Com. v UK** EU:C:2016:436
AG 6 Oct 2015 EU:C:2015:666
- * Art. 7+14(2)+24(2) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Ref. from European Commission, EU, 27 June 2014 and Equal Treatment
- * *Under Article 14(2) of Directive 2004/38, Union citizens and their family members are to enjoy the right of residence referred to in Articles 7, 12 and 13 of the directive as long as they meet the conditions set out therein. In specific cases, where there is a reasonable doubt as to whether a Union citizen or his family members satisfy the conditions set out in those articles, Member States may verify if those conditions are fulfilled. Article 14(2) provides that this verification is not to be carried out systematically.*
The fact that, under the national legislation at issue in the present action, for the purpose of granting the social benefits at issue the competent United Kingdom authorities are to require that the residence in their territory of nationals of other Member States who claim such benefits must be lawful does not amount to discrimination prohibited under Article 4 of Regulation No 883/2004.

- ☞ [CJEU 2 June 2016, C-233/14](#) *Com. v NL* EU:C:2016:396
AG 26 Jan 2016 EU:C:2016:50
- * Art. 24(2) Citizens Dir. Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. 18+20 TFEU
Ref. from European Commission, EU, 12 May 2014
- * *It must be concluded that financial support for travel costs is covered by the concept of ‘maintenance aid for studies ... consisting in student grants or student loans’ in Article 24(2) of Directive 2004/38 and that the Kingdom of the Netherlands may rely on the derogation in that regard in order to refuse to grant such support, before the person concerned has acquired the right of permanent residence, to persons other than employed persons, self-employed persons, persons who retain such status or their family members.*
- ☞ [CJEU 4 Oct. 2012, C-75/11](#) *Com. v AT* EU:C:2012:605
AG 6 Sep 2012 EU:C:2012:536
- * Art. 24 Citizens Dir. Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. 20+21 TFEU
Ref. from European Commission, EU, 21 Feb. 2011
- * *By granting reduced fares on public transport in principle only to students whose parents are in receipt of Austrian family allowances, the Republic of Austria has failed to fulfil its obligations under the combined provisions of Articles 18 TFEU, 20 TFEU and 21 TFEU and also Article 24 of Directive 2004/38.*
- ☞ [CJEU 5 Feb. 2015, C-317/14](#) *Com. v BE* EU:C:2015:63
Art. 45 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from European Commission, EU, 2 July 2014
- * *Declares that by requiring candidates for posts in the local services established in the French-speaking or German-speaking regions, whose diplomas or certificates do not show that they were educated in the language concerned, to provide evidence of their linguistic knowledge by means of one particular type of certificate, issued only by one particular Belgian body following an examination conducted by that body in Belgium, the Kingdom of Belgium has failed to fulfil its obligations under Article 45 TFEU and Regulation (EU) No 492/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 April 2011 on freedom of movement for workers within the Union.*
- ☞ [CJEU 14 June 2012, C-542/09](#) *Com. v NL* EU:C:2012:346
AG 16 Feb 2012 EU:C:2012:79
- * Art. 45 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. 7(2) FMofW Reg.
Ref. from European Commission, EU, 18 Dec. 2009
- * *By requiring that migrant workers and dependent family members comply with a residence requirement — namely, the ‘three out of six years’ rule — in order to be eligible to receive funding for higher educational studies pursued outside the Netherlands, the Kingdom of the Netherlands has failed to fulfil its obligations under Article 45 TFEU and Article 7(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 1612/68 of the Council of 15 October 1968 on freedom of movement for workers within the Community, as amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No 2434/92 of 27 July 1992.*
- ☞ [CJEU 29 Apr. 2025, C-181/23](#) *Com. v Malta* EU:C:2025:283
AG 4 Oct 2024 EU:C:2024:849
- * Art. 20 TFEU Subject: Loss of Rights
Ref. from European Commission, , 21 Mar. 2023
- * *This case is an action for infringement brought against the Maltese investor citizenship programme following its amendment in 2020. According to the CJEU in *Comm./Malta (C-181/23)*, while the definition of the conditions for granting and losing the nationality of a Member State is a matter of national competence, that competence must be exercised consistently with EU law.
The bond of nationality with a Member State is based on a specific relationship of solidarity, good faith and the reciprocity of rights and duties between the State and its citizens. Where a Member State grants nationality, and thus automatically Union citizenship, in direct exchange for predetermined investments or payments through a transactional procedure, it manifestly infringes those principles. Such ‘commercialisation’ of citizenship is incompatible with the basic concept of Union citizenship as defined by the Treaties. It infringes the principle of sincere cooperation and jeopardises the mutual trust between Member States concerning the grant of their nationality, which governed the establishment of Union citizenship in the Treaties.*

- ☞ [CJEU 19 Nov. 2024, C-808/21](#) *Com. v Czech Rep.* EU:C:2024:962
AG 11 Jan 2024 EU:C:2024:12
- * Art. 22 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from European Commission, , 21 Dec. 2021
joined cases: C-808/21+C-814/21
- * *These joined cases (C-808/21 Com. v Czech Republic and C-814/21 Com. v Poland) concern the electoral rights of migrant EU citizens. The electoral legislation of both EU states prohibit migrant EU citizens from becoming members of political parties. The European Commission argued that by imposing a nationality condition for becoming a member of a political party, the Czech Republic and Poland have infringed the EU law principle of equal treatment between own nationals and EU citizens. The CJEU has agreed with the Commission. The CJEU reasoned that in order to be exercised effectively, the right to vote and to stand as a candidate in local and European elections – which is a right of EU citizenship – requires that citizens be afforded equal access to the means available to the nationals of the Member State where they reside for the purpose of exercising that right. Being a member of a political party was deemed by the CJEU as contributing significantly to the exercise of electoral rights. The prohibition on being a member of a political party places EU citizens in a less favourable position than Czech and Polish nationals as regards the ability to stand as a candidate in municipal and European elections. Finally, this difference in treatment which is prohibited by EU law cannot be justified on grounds relating to respect for national identity: EU states can limit the role played by EU citizens in a political party in the context of national elections and such citizens can be prohibited from standing as candidates and from voting in national elections.*
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 5 June 2018, C-673/16](#) *Coman a.o.* EU:C:2018:385
AG 11 Jan 2018 EU:C:2018:2
- * Art. 2(2)(a)+3 Citizens Dir. Subject: Family Members
Ref. from Curtea Constituțională a României, Romania, 30 Dec. 2016
- * *In a situation in which a Union citizen has made use of his freedom of movement by moving to and taking up genuine residence, in accordance with the conditions laid down in Article 7(1) of Directive 2004/38, in a Member State other than that of which he is a national, and, whilst there, has created or strengthened a family life with a third-country national of the same sex to whom he is joined by a marriage lawfully concluded in the host Member State, Article 21(1) TFEU must be interpreted as precluding the competent authorities of the Member State of which the Union citizen is a national from refusing to grant that third-country national a right of residence in the territory of that Member State on the ground that the law of that Member State does not recognise marriage between persons of the same sex. Article 21(1) TFEU is to be interpreted as meaning that, in circumstances such as those of the main proceedings, a third-country national of the same sex as a Union citizen whose marriage to that citizen was concluded in a Member State in accordance with the law of that state has the right to reside in the territory of the Member State of which the Union citizen is a national for more than three months. That derived right of residence cannot be made subject to stricter conditions than those laid down in Article 7 of Directive 2004/38.*
- ☞ [CJEU 6 Sep. 2012, C-147/11](#) *Czop & Punakova* EU:C:2012:538
- * Art. 16(1) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Art. 10 FMofW Reg. and Family Members
Ref. from Upper Tribunal (Administrative Appeals Chamber), UK, 25 Mar. 2011
- * *Article 12 of Regulation 1612/68 (now Art. 10 Reg 492/2011) must be interpreted as conferring on the person who is the primary carer of a migrant worker's or former migrant worker's child who is attending educational courses in the host Member State a right of residence in that State, although that provision cannot be interpreted as conferring such a right on the person who is the primary carer of the child of a person who is self-employed. Article 16(1) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that a European Union citizen who is a national of a Member State which recently acceded to the European Union may, pursuant to that provision, rely on a right of permanent residence where he or she has resided in the host Member State for a continuous period of more than five years, part of which was completed before the accession of the former State to the European Union, provided that the residence was in accordance with the conditions laid down in Article 7(1) of Directive 2004/38.*
- ☞ [CJEU 24 Mar. 2023, C-30/22](#) *D.V.* EU:C:2023:259
- * Art. 30(2)+31(1) WA Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Administrativen sad Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria, 12 Jan. 2022
- * *The Bulgarian court has raised questions concerning the interpretation of Art. 30 and 31 of the Withdrawal Agreement. The CJEU ruled that the objective of the Withdrawal Agreement (WA) with the United Kingdom (UK) is to protect rights that have been acquired before the transitional period ended that involve the nationals, legislation or territory of the UK. The case concerns a Bulgarian national who had worked in the UK for a number of years and returns to Bulgaria after the transitional period has ended, where she applies for unemployment benefits. The Bulgarian authorities have refused to grant her an unemployment benefit, stating that the WA does not apply to her situation as she has interrupted her cross-border situation by returning to Bulgaria after the transitional period had expired. The CJEU first establishes that Art. 31(1) WA explicitly provides that Reg. 883/2004 applies to beneficiaries of Title II WA. It then considers whether that regulation would have applied to D.V. if the UK had not left the EU. According to Art. 65(5)(a) Reg. 883/2004 eligibility for an unemployment benefit can be conditional on having completed periods of insurance in the MS of which the legislation on benefits applies, as is the case in Bulgaria. As D.V. has not completed periods of insurance in Bulgaria after her return to that MS, she cannot rely on Art. 65(2) Reg. 883/2004 to claim unemployment benefits in Bulgaria.*

- ☞ [CJEU 19 Sep. 2019, C-544/18](#) **Daknevičiute** EU:C:2019:761
 * Art. 49 TFEU Subject: Residence
 Ref. from Upper Tribunal (Administrative Appeals Chamber), UK, 7 Aug. 2018
 * *Article 49 TFEU must be interpreted as meaning that a woman who ceases self-employed activity in circumstances where there are physical constraints in the late stages of pregnancy and the aftermath of childbirth retains the status of being self-employed, provided that she returns to the same or another self-employed activity or employment within a reasonable period after the birth of her child.*
At stake is the issue of a self-employed mother. This case confirms the Court's approach of treating employed and self-employed persons in a unitary manner as it clarifies that self-employed status can be retained by a previously self-employed new mother. Daknevičiute is the logical continuation of the Saint Prix case where the court found that worker status can be retained based on Art. 45 TFEU in situations not expressly mentioned in Art. 7(3) of Dir. 2004/38 where the EU citizen returns to work within a reasonable period after the birth of her child. Self-employed status can be retained based on Art. 49 TFEU in situations not expressly mentioned in Art. 7(3) of Dir. 2004/38 where the new mother returns either 'to the same or another self-employment or employment within a reasonable period after the birth of her child'.
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 11 Nov. 2014, C-333/13](#) **Dano a.o.** EU:C:2014:2358
 AG 20 May 2014 EU:C:2014:341
 * Art. 7(1)(b)+24(1) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
 Ref. from Sozialgericht Leipzig, Germany, 19 June 2013 and Equal Treatment
 * *Article 24(1) of Directive 2004/38, read in conjunction with Article 7(1)(b) thereof, and Article 4 of Regulation No 883/2004, as amended by Regulation No 1244/2010, must be interpreted as not precluding legislation of a Member State under which nationals of other Member States are excluded from entitlement to certain 'special non-contributory cash benefits' within the meaning of Article 70(2) of Regulation No 883/2004, although those benefits are granted to nationals of the host Member State who are in the same situation, in so far as those nationals of other Member States do not have a right of residence under Directive 2004/38 in the host Member State.*
- ☞ [CJEU 27 June 2018, C-230/17](#) **Deha-Altiner & Ravn** EU:C:2018:497
 * Art. 21(1) TFEU Subject: Family Members
 Ref. from Østre Landsret, Denmark, 2 May 2017
 * *Article 21(1) TFEU must be interpreted as not precluding legislation of a Member State which does not provide for the grant of a derived right of residence in another Member State, under Union law, to a third-country national family member of a Union citizen who is a national of that Member State and who returns there after having resided, pursuant to and in conformity with Union law, in another Member State, when the family member of the Union citizen concerned has not entered the territory of the Member State of origin of the Union citizen or has not applied for a residence permit as a 'natural consequence' of the return to that Member State of the Union citizen in question, provided that such rules require, in the context of an overall assessment, that other relevant factors also be taken into account, in particular factors capable of showing that, in spite of the time which elapsed between the return of the Union citizen to that Member State and the entry of the family member who is a third-country national, in the same Member State, the family life created and strengthened in the host Member State has not ended, so as to justify the granting to the family member in question of a derived right of residence; it is for the referring court to verify whether this is the case.*
- New ☞ [CJEU 12 Mar. 2026, C-477/24](#) **Deldwyn** EU:C:2026:182
 AG 25 Sep 2025 EU:C:2025:734
 * Art. 7(3) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
 Ref. from Court of Appeal, Ireland, 9 July 2024
 * *The Court ruled that the meaning of the expression "for more than one year" in Art. 7(3)(b) Dir. 2004/38 refers to a single continuous period of employment of more than one year. According to this article a worker shall retain the status of worker if he or she is in duly recorded involuntary unemployment after having been employed for more than one year and has been registered as a job-seeker with the relevant employment office. The fact that a Union citizen residing in the territory of another MS receives an unemployment allowance from that MS is not, as such, to be regarded, by the immigration authority of that MS, as constituting adequate proof that that person is in 'duly recorded' involuntary unemployment within the meaning of that provision. It appeared that the competent body in the Member State in this case (Ireland) provided unemployment allowances while it was not required to examine whether or not unemployment was 'involuntary'. Given Art. 47 of the Charter the immigration authority is obliged to communicate the information in its file, if necessary in suitably redacted form, to an applicant who is a third-country national, or to his or her representative, before making a decision relating to the retention of his or her right of residence or the grant of a residence card pursuant to Art. 14 Dir. 2004/38.*
- ☞ [CJEU 28 Apr. 2022, C-86/21](#) **Delia** EU:C:2022:310
 * Art. 45 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
 Art. 7(2) FMofW Reg.
 Ref. from Tribunal Superior de Justicia de Castilla y Leon, Spain, 4 Feb. 2021
 * *In Delia (C-86/21) the Court struck down Spanish legislation that prevents professional experience gained by nurses such as Ms Delia in other national health services (i.e., Portugal) from being taken into account for the purposes of calculating length of service to achieve career progression on the grounds that it constitutes a restriction of the free movement of workers (combined reading of Art. 45 TFEU and Art. 7 of Reg. 492/2011). Such a restriction can only be justified if it serves to fulfil an objective in the general interest, makes it possible to ensure the attainment of that objective, and does not go beyond what is necessary to achieve that objective.*

- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 6 Oct. 2015, C-650/13](#) **Delvigne** EU:C:2015:118
AG 24 Sep 2014 EU:C:2014:2240
- * Art. 20(2)(b) TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Centrale Raad van Beroep, Netherlands, 27 June 2013
- * *Article 39(2) and the last sentence of Article 49(1) of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union must be interpreted as not precluding legislation of a Member State, such as that at issue in the main proceedings, which excludes, by operation of law, from those entitled to vote in elections to the European Parliament persons who, like the applicant in the main proceedings, were convicted of a serious crime and whose conviction became final before 1 March 1994.*
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 19 Dec. 2008, C-551/07](#) **Deniz Sahin** EU:C:2008:755
Art. 3+6+7 Citizens Dir. Subject: Family Members
Ref. from Verwaltungsgerichtshof, Austria, 11 Dec. 2007
- * *Articles 3(1), 6(2) and 7(1)(d) and (2) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as applying also to family members who arrived in the host Member State independently of the Union citizen and acquired the status of family member or started to lead a family life with that Union citizen only after arriving in that State. In that regard, the fact that, at the time the family member acquires that status or starts to lead a family life, he resides temporarily in the host Member State pursuant to that State's asylum laws has no bearing.*
- * *Articles 9(1) and 10 of Directive 2004/38 preclude a national provision under which family members of a Union citizen who are not nationals of a Member State, and who, in accordance with Community law, and in particular Article 7(2) of the directive, have a right of residence, cannot be issued with a residence card of a family member of a Union citizen solely because they are entitled temporarily to reside in the host Member State under that State's asylum laws.*
- ☞ [CJEU 15 Dec. 2016, C-401/15](#) **Depesme & Kerrou** EU:C:2016:955
AG 9 Jun 2016 EU:C:2016:430
- * Art. 45 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. 7(2) Citizens Dir.
Ref. from Cour administrative, Luxembourg, 24 July 2015
- * *Article 45 TFEU and Article 7(2) of Regulation No 492/2011 must be interpreted as meaning that a child of a frontier worker, who is able to benefit indirectly from the social advantages referred to in the latter provision, such as study finance granted by a Member State to the children of workers pursuing or who have pursued an activity in that Member State, means not only a child who has a child-parent relationship with that worker, but also a child of the spouse or registered partner of that worker, where that worker supports that child. The latter requirement is the result of a factual situation, which it is for the national authorities and, if appropriate, the national courts, to assess, and it is not necessary for them to determine the reasons for that contribution or make a precise estimation of its amount.*
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 15 Nov. 2011, C-256/11](#) **Dereci** EU:C:2011:734
AG 29 Sep 2011 EU:C:2011:626
- * Art. 20 TFEU Subject: Family Members
Ref. from Verwaltungsgerichtshof, Austria, 25 May 2011
- * *European Union law and, in particular, its provisions on citizenship of the Union, must be interpreted as meaning that it does not preclude a Member State from refusing to allow a third country national to reside on its territory, where that third country national wishes to reside with a member of his family who is a citizen of the Union residing in the Member State of which he has nationality, who has never exercised his right to freedom of movement, provided that such refusal does not lead, for the Union citizen concerned, to the denial of the genuine enjoyment of the substance of the rights conferred by virtue of his status as a citizen of the Union, which is a matter for the referring court to verify.*
- * *Article 41(1) of the Additional Protocol (signed in Brussels on 23 November 1970 and concluded, approved and confirmed on behalf of the Community by Council Regulation (EEC) No 2760/72 of 19 December 1972), must be interpreted as meaning that the enactment of new legislation more restrictive than the previous legislation, which, for its part, relaxed earlier legislation concerning the conditions for the exercise of the freedom of establishment of Turkish nationals at the time of the entry into force of that protocol in the Member State concerned must be considered to be a 'new restriction' within the meaning of that provision.*
- ☞ [CJEU 27 June 2018, C-246/17](#) **Diallo** EU:C:2018:499
AG 7 Mar 2018 EU:C:2018:171
- * Art. 10(1) Citizens Dir. Subject: Family Members
Ref. from Conseil d'État, Belgium, 10 May 2017
- * *Article 10(1) of Directive 2004/38, must be interpreted as meaning that the decision on the application for a residence card of a family member of a Union citizen must be adopted and notified within the period of six months laid down in that provision.*
- * *Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as precluding national legislation, such as that at issue in the main proceedings, which requires competent national authorities to issue automatically a residence card of a family member of a European Union citizen to the person concerned, where the period of six months, referred to in Article 10(1) of Directive 2004/38, is exceeded, without finding, beforehand, that the person concerned actually meets the conditions for residing in the host Member State in accordance with EU law.*
- * *EU law must be interpreted as precluding national case-law, such as that at issue in the main proceedings, under which, following the judicial annulment of a decision refusing to issue a residence card of a family member of a Union citizen, the competent national authority automatically regains the full period of six months referred to in Article 10(1) of Directive 2004/38.*

- ☞ [CJEU 21 July 2011, C-325/09](#) **Dias** EU:C:2011:498
AG 17 Feb 2011 EU:C:2011:86
- * Art. 16 Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Ref. from Court of Appeal (England & Wales) (Civil Division), UK, 12 Aug. 2009
- * *Article 16(1) and (4) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that:*
– *periods of residence completed before 30 April 2006 on the basis solely of a residence permit validly issued pursuant to Council Directive 68/360/EEC of 15 October 1968 on the abolition of restrictions on movement and residence within the Community for workers of Member States and their families, without the conditions governing entitlement to any right of residence having been satisfied, cannot be regarded as having been completed legally for the purposes of the acquisition of the right of permanent residence under Article 16(1) of Directive 2004/38, and*
– *periods of residence of less than two consecutive years, completed on the basis solely of a residence permit validly issued pursuant to Directive 68/360, without the conditions governing entitlement to a right of residence having been satisfied, which occurred before 30 April 2006 and after a continuous period of five years' legal residence completed prior to that date, are not such as to affect the acquisition of the right of permanent residence under Article 16(1) of Directive 2004/38.*
- ☞ [CJEU 13 July 2017, C-193/16](#) **E.** EU:C:2017:542
Art. 27 Citizens Dir. Subject: Loss of Rights
Ref. from Tribunal Superior de Justicia del País Vasco, Spain, 7 Apr. 2016
- * *The second subparagraph of Article 27(2) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that the fact that a person is imprisoned at the time the expulsion decision was adopted, without the prospect of being released in the near future, does not exclude that his conduct represents, as the case may be, a present and genuine threat for a fundamental interest of the society of the host Member State.*
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 7 Sep. 2022, C-624/20](#) **E.K. v Stscr. (NL)** EU:C:2022:639
AG 17 Mar 2022 EU:C:2022:194
- * Art. 20 TFEU Subject: Residence
Ref. from Raad van State, Netherlands, 24 Nov. 2020 and Family Members
- * *Art. 3(2)(e) LTR Dir. must be interpreted as meaning that the concept of residence 'solely on temporary grounds', which is referred to therein, is an autonomous concept of EU law, which must be interpreted uniformly throughout the MSs.*
Art. 3(2)(e) LTR Dir. must be interpreted as meaning that the concept of residence 'solely on temporary grounds', which is referred to therein, does not cover the residence of a third-country national under Art. 20 TFEU within the territory of the Member State of which the Union citizen concerned is a national.
This case concerns the right of a parent of minor EU citizens resident in their MS of nationality who have been issued an Art. 20 TFEU status right to long term residence after five years uninterrupted residence. The CJEU first establishes that, as there is no reference to national law, 'temporary by nature' in Art. 3(2)(e) Directive 2003/109 is an autonomous Union law concept. Then it holds that the right of residence under Art. 20 TFEU does not qualify as 'temporary by nature'. Therefore parents of minor EU citizens are eligible for the long-term residence status after five years of uninterrupted residence in the Member State of which their minor EU citizen child is a national.
- ☞ [CJEU 9 June 2022, C-673/20](#) **E.P. v Prefet (FR)** EU:C:2022:449
AG 22 Feb 2022 EU:C:2022:104
- * Art. 2+3+10+12 WA Subject: Loss of Rights
Ref. from Tribunal judiciaire d'Auch, France, 17 Nov. 2020
- * *1. Art. 9+50 TEU and Art. 20 to 22 TFEU, read in conjunction with the Brexit Agreement, must be interpreted as meaning that, as of the withdrawal of the UK from the EU, on 1 February 2020, nationals of that State who exercised their right to reside in a MS before the end of the transition period no longer enjoy the status of citizen of the Union, nor, more specifically, by virtue of Art. 20(2)(b)+22 TFEU, the right to vote and to stand as a candidate in municipal elections in their MS of residence, including where they are also deprived, by virtue of the law of the State of which they are nationals, of the right to vote in elections held by that State.*
2. The examination of the other questions referred for a preliminary ruling has not revealed any factor capable of affecting the validity of Council Decision (EU) 2020/135 of 30 January 2020 on the Brexit Agreement.
In this case the Court rules that Arts. 9 and 50 TEU and Arts. 0-22 TFEU read in conjunction with the Withdrawal Agreement concluded between the EU and the UK are to be interpreted as meaning that UK citizens have lost their status as EU citizen when the UK left the EU on 1 February 2020 as they are no longer nationals of an EU Member State. In this context it is irrelevant whether they have exercised free movement rights in the past. Loss of the status of EU citizenship also entails the loss of the right to vote for and stand as a candidate for the EP and in municipal elections of the host-Member State; no proportionality test is required in this context. Art. 18 TFEU no longer covers the situation of the nationals of a State that has withdrawn its membership of the EU as from the moment of the withdrawal the citizens of that State are third-country nationals and according to consistent case law Art. 18 TFEU does not apply to the situation of third-country nationals. As far as the arguments put forward, challenging the validity of the Withdrawal Agreement, the Court does not find any reason to assume that the validity of the Decision approving that Agreement is affected.

- ☞ [CJEU 18 Apr. 2024, C-716/22](#) *E.P. v Prefet du Gers (FR)* EU:C:2024:339
 * Art. 2(c) WA Subject: Loss of Rights
 Art. 20 TFEU
 Ref. from Tribunal judiciaire d’Auch, France, 15 Nov. 2022
- * *In this case the CJEU confirms that following the entry into force of the Withdrawal Agreement between the UK and the EU, British nationals who have exercised their right to free movement no longer benefit from a right to vote and to stand as a candidate in elections to the European Parliament in their Member State of residence. Member States are not required to grant that right to persons who are no longer Union citizens. The fact that such former EU citizens have not been able to vote in the Brexit referendum was judged irrelevant since it was based on electoral law choices made by the UK, thus not linked to EU law. Furthermore, the validity of the Withdrawal Agreement is not called into question by the fact that it fails to recognise a right to vote in EP elections or a right to stand as candidate to former EU citizens.*
- ☞ [CJEU 16 Jan. 2025, C-277/23](#) *E.P.* EU:C:2025:18
 AG 4 Jul 2024 EU:C:2024:583
 * Art. 21(1) TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
 Ref. from Constitutional Court, Croatia, 18 Apr. 2023
- * *On the issue of taxation of grants to support the exercise of the right to free movement for student learning mobility under the Erasmus+ programme. The applicant’s son is dependent upon her and the grant he received to support his exercise of free movement had negative tax consequences for the mother under national legislation, i.e. a reduction in the level of child allowance. The applicant argued that the national taxation legislation that did not exempt the son’s support from taxation amounted to discriminatory treatment under Articles 18, 20(2)(a) and 21 TFEU linked to the child’s exercise of free movement rights for the purpose of education. The CJEU ruled that unfavorable tax consequences for a taxable parent constitute a restriction on freedom of movement within the meaning of Article 21 TFEU where they result from the exercise of that freedom by the child (para 49). The restrictive measure pursued an objective in the public interest – determining the real capacity of taxpayer parents – but failed to meet the requirement of proportionality. However, the CJEU ruled that the tax treatment of the support grant for Erasmus+ mobility is not capable of taking into account, in a consistent and systematic manner, the real capacity to pay tax of the parents since the support offered aims to contribute to covering the additional costs that result from the exercise of the mobility.*
- ☞ [CJEU 22 June 2021, C-719/19](#) *F.S. v Stscr. (NL)* EU:C:2021:506
 AG 10 Feb 2021 EU:C:2021:104
 * Art. 15(1)+6(1) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
 Ref. from Raad van State, Netherlands, 30 Sep. 2019
- * *Art. 15(1) Citizens Directive must be interpreted as meaning that a decision to expel a citizen of the Union from the territory of the host MS adopted on the basis of that provision on the basis that that citizen is no longer a citizen of the Union is not fully complied with. a temporary right of residence in that territory under that Directive merely because that Union citizen has physically left that territory within the period of voluntary departure laid down in that decision. In order to be eligible for a new right of residence under Art. 6(1) of that directive in that same territory, the Union citizen in respect of whom such an expulsion decision has been taken must not only have physically left the territory of the host Member State, but have also effectively and effectively ended his stay in that territory, so that on his return to that territory it cannot be assumed that his stay is in reality a continuation of his previous stay in that same territory. It is for the referring court to determine whether that is the case, taking into account all the specific circumstances which characterize the specific situation of the Union citizen concerned. If such verification shows that the Union citizen has not effectively and effectively terminated his temporary stay in the territory of the host Member State, that Member State is not required to adopt a new expulsion decision on the basis of the same facts as those which led to the expulsion decision already taken with regard to the citizen of the Union, but may rely on the latter decision in order to oblige that citizen to leave his territory.*
- ☞ [CJEU 4 Oct. 2024, C-650/22](#) *FIFA* EU:C:2024:824
 AG 30 Apr 2024 EU:C:2024:375
 * Art. 45 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
 Ref. from Szeged High Court, Hungary, 8 Aug. 2022
 joined cases: C-650/22+C-528/22
- * *The CJEU rules that an important part of the FIFA rules concerning the transfer of football players are prohibited*

- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 18 Nov. 2008, C-158/07](#) **Föster** EU:C:2008:630
AG 10 Jul 2008 EU:C:2008:399
- * Art. 18+20 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Centrale Raad van Beroep, Netherlands, 22 Mar. 2007
- * *A student in the situation of the applicant in the main proceedings cannot rely on Article 7 of Regulation (EEC) No 1251/70 of the Commission of 29 June 1970 on the right of workers to remain in the territory of a Member State after having been employed in that State in order to obtain a maintenance grant.
A student who is a national of a Member State and travels to another Member State to study there can rely on the first paragraph of Article 12 EC in order to obtain a maintenance grant where he or she has resided for a certain duration in the host Member State. The first paragraph of Article 12 EC does not preclude the application to nationals of other Member States of a requirement of five years' prior residence.
In circumstances such as those of the main proceedings, Community law, in particular the principle of legal certainty, does not preclude the application of a residence requirement which makes the right of students from other Member States to a maintenance grant subject to the completion of periods of residence which occurred prior to the introduction of that requirement.*
- ☞ [CJEU 8 June 2017, C-541/15](#) **Freitag** EU:C:2017:432
AG 24 Nov 2016 EU:C:2016:902
- * Art. 18+21 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Amtsgericht Wuppertal, Germany, 16 Oct. 2015
- * *Article 21 TFEU must be interpreted as precluding the registry office of a Member State from refusing to recognise and enter in the civil register the name legally acquired by a national of that Member State in another Member State, of which he is also a national, and which is the same as his birth name, on the basis of a provision of national law which makes the possibility of having such an entry made, by declaration to the registry office, subject to the condition that that name must have been acquired during a period of habitual residence in that other Member State, unless there are other provisions of national law which effectively allow the recognition of that name.*
- ☞ [CJEU 17 Dec. 2020, C-710/19](#) **G.M.A.** EU:C:2020:1037
AG 17 Sep 2020 EU:C:2020:739
- * Art. 14(4)(b)+15+31 Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Art. 45 TFEU
Ref. from Conseil d'État, Belgium, 12 Sep. 2019
- * *The CJEU confirms and clarifies its settled case law Antonissen (C-292/89) and Saint Prix (C-507/12) on 'a reasonable of time to seek employment that corresponds with their occupational qualifications' within the meaning of Art. 45 TFEU. It reiterates that art. 14(4)(b) of Dir. 2004/38 sees to the right to remain as a jobseeker (Alimanovic, C-67/14), and adds to this finding that Art. 6 of that Directive applies to all EU Citizens during the first three months of their stay in a MS. From the moment of registration, a jobseeker enjoys 'a reasonable period' to become acquainted with potentially suitable employment opportunities and to take the necessary steps to obtain employment. The CJEU qualifies a six-month period (Antonissen) as sufficient 'not [to] call into question the effectiveness of Art. 45 TFEU'. During this initial period, MSs may only require evidence that employment is still being sought. On expiry of this period, MSs may also require evidence that there is a genuine chance that the jobseeker will be engaged. National courts must take the labour market situation that corresponds with the jobseekers qualifications into consideration. Refusals for jobs that do not match these qualifications may not be classed as evidence that the EU citizen does not satisfy the conditions in Art. 14 (4)(b) of Dir. 2004/38.*
- ☞ [CJEU 21 Dec. 2023, C-488/21](#) **G.V. v Social Welfare (IE)** EU:C:2023:1013
AG 16 Feb 2023 EU:C:2023:115
- * Art. 7(2) FMofW Reg. Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. 21+45 TFEU and Family Members
Ref. from Court of Appeal, Ireland, 10 Aug. 2021
- * *The question is whether the dependant mother of an EU worker in Ireland can be labelled as an unreasonable burden when asking for a disability allowance which would terminate her financial dependency on her daughter, the EU worker. Irish law requires dependant family members to be (and remain) dependent on the EU citizen and not become an unreasonable burden if they are to retain a right of residence.
It is worth pointing out that the opinion of AG Ćapeta offered an in-depth analysis of the unreasonable burden argument made by the Irish government, whereas the Court's ruling follows a classic interpretation of workers' rights. As such, the Court ruled that the family member of an EU worker is entitled to social benefits as an indirect beneficiary of the worker's right to equal treatment concerning social advantages as per Art. 7(2) Reg. 492/2011. The Court reasoned the unreasonable burden argument away by stating that EU workers contribute via taxes to the financing of social policies in their host state and should be able to profit from them under equal conditions to nationals.*
- ☞ [CJEU 8 Dec. 2022, C-731/21](#) **G.V. v Caisse (LU)** EU:C:2022:969
Art. 7(2) FMofW Reg. Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Cour de Cassation, Luxembourg, 25 Nov. 2021
- * *Art. 45 TFEU and Art. 7 of Reg. on Freedom of Movement for Workers must be interpreted as precluding legislation of a host MS which provides that the grant, to the surviving partner of a partnership that was validly entered into and registered in another MS, of a survivor's pension due on account of the exercise, in the first MS, of a professional activity by the deceased partner, is subject to the condition that the partnership was first recorded in the register kept by that State.*

- ☞ [CJEU 25 Feb. 2016, C-299/14](#) **Garcia-Nieto** EU:C:2016:114
AG 4 Jun 2015 EU:C:2015:366
- * Art. 24(2) Citizens Dir. Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Landessozialgericht Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany, 17 June 2014
- * *Art. 24 of Dir. 2004/38 must be interpreted as not precluding legislation of a Member State under which nationals of other Member States who are in a situation such as that referred to in Art. 6(1) of that directive are excluded from entitlement to certain 'special non-contributory cash benefits' within the meaning of Article 70(2) of Regulation No 883/2004, which also constitute 'social assistance' within the meaning of Article 24(2) of Directive 2004/38.*
- ☞ [CJEU 17 Nov. 2011, C-430/10](#) **Gaydarov** EU:C:2011:749
- * Art. 4+27 Citizens Dir. Subject: Exit and Entry
Ref. from Administrativen sad Sofia-grad, Bulgaria, 2 Sep. 2010
- * *Article 21 TFEU and Article 27 of Directive 2004/38/EC, do not preclude national legislation that permits the restriction of the right of a national of a Member State to travel to another Member State in particular on the ground that he has been convicted of a criminal offence of narcotic drug trafficking in another State, provided that :*
(i) the personal conduct of that national constitutes a genuine, present and sufficiently serious threat affecting one of the fundamental interests of society,
(ii) the restrictive measure envisaged is appropriate to ensure the achievement of the objective it pursues and does not go beyond what is necessary to attain it and
(iii) that measure is subject to effective judicial review permitting a determination of its legality as regards matters of fact and law in the light of the requirements of European Union law.
- ☞ [CJEU 20 Dec. 2017, C-442/16](#) **Gusa** EU:C:2017:1004
AG 26 Jul 2017 EU:C:2017:607
- * Art. 7(1)+7(3)+14(4) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Ref. from Court of Appeal, Ireland, 8 Aug. 2016
- * *Article 7(3)(b) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that a national of a Member State retains the status of self-employed person for the purposes of Article 7(1)(a) of that directive where, after having lawfully resided in and worked as a self-employed person in another Member State for approximately four years, that national has ceased that activity, because of a duly recorded absence of work owing to reasons beyond his control, and has registered as a jobseeker with the relevant employment office of the latter Member State.*
- ☞ [CJEU 13 June 2013, C-45/12](#) **Hadj Ahmed** EU:C:2013:390
- * Art. 13(2)+14 Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Art. 18 TFEU
Ref. from Cour du travail de Bruxelles, Belgium, 30 Jan. 2012
- * *Articles 13(2) and 14 of Directive 2004/38 read in conjunction with Article 18 TFEU, must be interpreted as not precluding the legislation of a Member State by which the latter subjects the grant of guaranteed family benefits to a third-country national, while her situation is as described in point 1 of this operative part, to a length-of-residence requirement of five years although its own nationals are not subject to that requirement.*
- ☞ [CJEU 10 Sep. 2014, C-270/13](#) **Haralambidis** EU:C:2014:2185
AG 5 Jun 2014 EU:C:2014:1358
- * Art. 4+45(1) TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Consiglio di Stato, Italy, 17 May 2013
- * *Article 45(4) TFEU must be interpreted as not authorising a Member State to reserve to its nationals the exercise of the duties of President of a Port Authority.*

- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 16 Dec. 2008, C-524/06](#) **Huber** EU:C:2008:724
AG 3 Apr 2008 EU:C:2008:194
- * Art. 18 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Oberverwaltungsgericht Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany, 28 Dec. 2006
- * *A system for processing personal data relating to Union citizens who are not nationals of the Member State concerned, such as that put in place by the Law on the central register of foreign nationals (Gesetz über das Ausländerzentralregister) of 2 September 1994, as amended by the Law of 21 June 2005, and having as its object the provision of support to the national authorities responsible for the application of the law relating to the right of residence does not satisfy the requirement of necessity laid down by Article 7(e) of Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 1995 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, interpreted in the light of the prohibition on any discrimination on grounds of nationality, unless:*
- *it contains only the data which are necessary for the application by those authorities of that legislation, and*
 - *its centralised nature enables the legislation relating to the right of residence to be more effectively applied as regards Union citizens who are not nationals of that Member State.*
- It is for the national court to ascertain whether those conditions are satisfied in the main proceedings.
The storage and processing of personal data containing individualised personal information in a register such as the Central Register of Foreign Nationals for statistical purposes cannot, on any basis, be considered to be necessary within the meaning of Article 7(e) of Directive 95/46.
Article 12(1) EC must be interpreted as meaning that it precludes the putting in place by a Member State, for the purpose of fighting crime, of a system for processing personal data specific to Union citizens who are not nationals of that Member State.*
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 23 Feb. 2010, C-310/08](#) **Ibrahim** EU:C:2010:80
AG 20 Oct 2009 EU:C:2009:641
- * Art. 10 Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Ref. from Court of Appeal (England & Wales) (Civil Division), UK, 11 July 2008
- * *In circumstances such as those of the main proceedings, the children of a national of a Member State who works or has worked in the host Member State and the parent who is their primary carer can claim a right of residence in the latter State on the sole basis of Article 12 of Regulation 1612/68 (now: Art. 10 Reg 492/2011), without such a right being conditional on their having sufficient resources and comprehensive sickness insurance cover in that State.*
- ☞ [CJEU 8 Nov. 2012, C-40/11](#) **Iida** EU:C:2012:691
AG 15 May 2012 EU:C:2012:296
- * Art. 20 TFEU Subject: Residence
Ref. from Verwaltungsgerichtshof Baden-Württemberg, Germany, 28 Jan. 2011 and Family Members
- * *Outside the situations governed by Directive 2004/38 and where there is no other connection with the provisions on citizenship of European Union law, a third-country national cannot claim a right of residence derived from a Union citizen.*
- ☞ [CJEU 3 Nov. 2022, C-32/21](#) **Institut National** EU:C:2022:861
Art. 2+3+10+12 WA Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Tribunal Judiciaire de Perpignan, France, 19 Jan. 2021
withdrawn
- * *Non-discrimination on grounds of nationality.*
- ☞ [CJEU 18 Jan. 2022, C-118/20](#) **J.Y. v W. LReg. (AT)** EU:C:2022:34
AG 1 Jul 2021 EU:C:2021:530
- * Art. 20+21 TFEU Subject: Loss of Rights
Ref. from Verwaltungsgerichtshof, Austria, 13 Feb. 2020
- * *This case concerns an Estonian national who renounced her nationality and therefore her EU citizenship in order to acquire Austrian nationality. Upon renunciation of her Estonian nationality, J.Y. became stateless. The Austrian authorities revoked the assurance given to the applicant that she would be granted Austrian nationality and rejected her application on grounds that she committed several road offences prior to the assurance being given to her.
The CJEU ruled:*
- (1) *The situation of a person who, having the nationality of one MS only, renounces that nationality and loses, as a result, his or her status of citizen of the Union, with a view to obtaining the nationality of another MS, following the assurance given by the authorities of the latter MS that he or she will be granted that nationality, falls, by reason of its nature and its consequences, within the scope of EU law where that assurance is revoked with the effect of preventing that person from recovering the status of citizen of the Union.*
 - (2) *Article 20 TFEU must be interpreted as meaning that the competent national authorities and, as the case may be, the national courts of the host MS are required to ascertain whether the decision to revoke the assurance as to the grant of the nationality of that MS, which makes the loss of the status of citizen of the Union permanent for the person concerned, is compatible with the principle of proportionality in the light of the consequences it entails for that person's situation. That requirement of compatibility with the principle of proportionality is not satisfied where such a decision is based on administrative traffic offences which, under the applicable provisions of national law, give rise to a mere pecuniary penalty.*

- ☞ [CJEU 19 July 2008, C-33/07](#) *Jipa* EU:C:2008:396
AG 14 Feb 2008 EU:C:2008:92
- * Art. 18+27 Citizens Dir. Subject: Exit and Entry
Art. 20 TFEU
Ref. from Tribunalul Dâmbovița, Romania, 24 Jan. 2007
- * *Article 18 EC and Article 27 of Directive 2004/38/EC do not preclude national legislation that allows the right of a national of a Member State to travel to another Member State to be restricted, in particular on the ground that he has previously been repatriated from the latter Member State on account of his 'illegal residence' there, provided that the personal conduct of that national constitutes a genuine, present and sufficiently serious threat to one of the fundamental interests of society and that the restrictive measure envisaged is appropriate to ensure the achievement of the objective it pursues and does not go beyond what is necessary to attain it. It is for the national court to establish whether that is so in the case before it.*
- ☞ [CJEU 1 Aug. 2025, C-397/23](#) *Jobcenter Arbeitplus Bielefeld* EU:C:2025:602
AG 13 Feb 2025 EU:C:2025:96
- * Art. 18+20+21 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. all Citizens Dir. and Residence
Ref. from Sozialgericht Detmold, Germany, 22 June 2023
- * *In this case the applicant is a Polish national who entered Germany from the Netherlands in 2020 with his Polish partner. Their common child was born in Germany in November 2020 and has also Polish nationality. The applicant, his partner and their common child applied for basic social benefits. The application of the applicant's partner and the application in favour of the child was granted. But the applicant's application was rejected, as he only had a right of residence as a jobseeker and did not qualify for a right of residence on the basis of exercising his parental authority, because the child did not have the German nationality. According to the Court, Article 24 Directive 2004/38 precludes this kind of legislation under which a residence permit, provided for by national law for the purposes of allowing the exercise of parental authority, cannot be issued to a Union citizen who has parental responsibility for his or her minor child, solely on the ground that that minor child, although also a Union citizen and residing on the territory of that Member State under that directive, does not hold the nationality of that Member State.*
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 6 Oct. 2020, C-181/19](#) *Jobcenter Krefeld* EU:C:2020:794
AG 14 May 2020 EU:C:2020:377
- * Art. 24(2) Citizens Dir. Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. 10 FMofW Reg.
Ref. from Landessozialgericht Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany, 25 Feb. 2019
- * *In this case the CJEU ruled that a national of another MS and his or her children, who have a right to reside on the basis of Art. 10 Reg. 492/2011 can rely on the principle of equal treatment in Art. 7(2) when claiming social advantages, even if the parent has lost the status of mobile worker.
The derogation from equal treatment and social assistance for jobseekers in Art. 24(2) Dir. 2004/38 does not apply to those who derive a right to reside from Art. 10 Reg. 492/2011, even if they also derive a right to reside as a jobseeker from Art. 14(4)(b) of Dir. 2004/38.
Art. 4 Reg. 883/2004, read together with Artt. 3(3) and 70(2), also preclude legislation excluding persons lawfully residing on the basis of Article 10 Reg. 492/2011 from special non-contributory cash benefits within the meaning of Reg. 883/2004. This is also the case if the benefits constitute social assistance within the meaning of Dir. 2004/38.*
- ☞ [CJEU 18 Dec. 2025, C-296/24](#) *Jouxty et al.* EU:C:2025:999
AG 12 Jun 2025 EU:C:2025:444
- * Art. 45 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. 7(2) FMofW Reg.
Ref. from Cour de Cassation, Luxembourg, 25 Apr. 2024
joined cases: C-296/24+...307/24
- * *The condition for granting a non-resident worker, in the MS of employment, a family allowance for the child of their spouse or registered partner, namely that this worker is required to "provide for the maintenance" of this child, is met when there is a family unit between said worker and the biological or adopted child of their spouse or registered partner, which is characterized by the existence of a common home between the same worker and this child.*
- ☞ [CJEU 6 July 2023, C-285/22 P](#) *Juliën* EU:C:2023:551
Art. 16 WA Subject: Loss of Rights
Appeal against General Court, T-442/21, 24/02/2022
- * *This case was originally decided by the General Court on 24 Feb. 2022 in T-442/21. Subsequently, the Court dismisses the appeal. In short, the CJEU affirms that the loss of free movement rights is a consequence of the UK decision to leave EU.*

- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 2 May 2018, C-331/16](#) **K. & H.F.** EU:C:2018:296
AG 14 Dec 2017 EU:C:2017:973
- * Art. 27(2)+28(3) Citizens Dir. Subject: Loss of Rights
Ref. from Rechtbank Den Haag, Netherlands, 13 June 2016
- * *Article 27(2) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that the fact that a European Union citizen or a third-country national family member of such a citizen, who applies for a right of residence in the territory of a Member State, has been the subject, in the past, of a decision excluding him from refugee status under Article 1F or Article 12(2) of Directive 2011/95 (Qual.Dir.), does not enable the competent authorities of that Member State to consider automatically that the mere presence of that individual in its territory constitutes, whether or not there is any risk of re-offending, a genuine, present and sufficiently serious threat affecting one of the fundamental interests of society, capable of justifying the adoption of measures on grounds of public policy or public security.*
Article 28(1) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that, where the measures envisaged entail the expulsion of the individual concerned from the host Member State, that State must take account of, inter alia, the nature and gravity of the alleged conduct of the individual concerned, the duration and, when appropriate, the legality of his residence in that Member State, the period of time that has elapsed since that conduct, the individual's behaviour during that period, the extent to which he currently poses a danger to society, and the solidity of social, cultural and family links with that Member State.
Article 28(3)(a) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that it is not applicable to a European Union citizen who does not have a right of permanent residence in the host Member State, within the meaning of Article 16 and Article 28(2) of that directive.
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 8 May 2018, C-82/16](#) **K.A. a.o.** EU:C:2018:308
AG 26 Oct 2017 EU:C:2017:821
- * Art. 27+28 Citizens Dir. Subject: Loss of Rights
Art. 20 TFEU
Ref. from Raad voor de Vreemdelingenbetwistingen, Belgium, 12 Feb. 2016
- * *Article 20 TFEU must be interpreted as meaning that:-*
– *a practice of a Member State that consists in not examining such an application solely on the ground stated above, without any examination of whether there exists a relationship of dependency between that Union citizen and that third-country national of such a nature that, in the event of a refusal to grant a derived right of residence to the third-country national, the Union citizen would, in practice, be compelled to leave the territory of the European Union as a whole and thereby be deprived of the genuine enjoyment of the substance of the rights conferred by that status, is precluded;*
– *where the Union citizen is an adult, a relationship of dependency, capable of justifying the grant, to the third-country national concerned, of a derived right of residence under Article 20 TFEU, is conceivable only in exceptional cases, where, in the light of all the relevant circumstances, any form of separation of the individual concerned from the member of his family on whom he is dependent is not possible;*
– *where the Union citizen is a minor, the assessment of the existence of such a relationship of dependency must be based on consideration, in the best interests of the child, of all the specific circumstances, including the age of the child, the child's physical and emotional development, the extent of his emotional ties to each of his parents, and the risks which separation from the third-country national parent might entail for that child's equilibrium; the existence of a family link with that third-country national, whether natural or legal, is not sufficient, and cohabitation with that third-country national is not necessary. in order to establish such a relationship of dependency;*
– *it is immaterial that the relationship of dependency relied on by a third-country national in support of his application for residence for the purposes of family reunification comes into being after the imposition on him of an entry ban;*
– *it is immaterial that the entry ban imposed on the third-country national has become final at the time when he submits his application for residence for the purposes of family reunification; and*
– *it is immaterial that an entry ban, imposed on a third-country national who has submitted an application for residence for the purposes of family reunification, may be justified by non-compliance with an obligation to return; where such a ban is justified on public policy grounds, such grounds may permit a refusal to grant that third-country national a derived right of residence under Article 20 TFEU only if it is apparent from a specific assessment of all the circumstances of the individual case, in the light of the principle of proportionality, the best interests of any child or children concerned and fundamental rights, that the person concerned represents a genuine, present, and sufficiently serious threat to public policy.*
- ☞ [CJEU 24 June 2022, C-2/21](#) **K.S. & S.V.D.** EU:C:2022:502
- * Art. 4(3) Citizens Dir. Subject: Exit and Entry
Art. 20+21 TFEU
Ref. from Wojewódzki Sąd Adm. Krakowie , Poland, 9 Dec. 2020
- * *Art. 20+21 TFEU, read in conjunction with Art. 7+24 Charter, must be interpreted as meaning that, in the case of a minor child who is a citizen of the Union and whose birth certificate, issued by the authorities of a Member State, designates as that child's parents two persons of the same sex, the Member State of which that child is a national (i) is obliged to issue to that child an identity card or a passport without requiring the prior transcription of a birth certificate of that child into the national register of civil status, and (ii) is obliged to recognise, as is any other Member State, the document from another Member State that permits that same child to exercise without impediment, with each of those two persons, his or her right to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States.*
In this case the CJEU confirms its ruling in V.M.A. (C-490/20) that the MS of which a child is a national has to acknowledge as the parents of that child the parents identified in the child's birth certificate issued by the MSs in which that child was born even if the MS of which the child is a national does not accept same sex parenthood, as the transcription of the birth certificate is a prerequisite to issue identity documents.

- ☞ [CJEU 27 Nov. 2025, C-356/24](#) **Kärntner Land.** EU:C:2025:926
 * Art. 45 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
 Art. 7(1) FMofW Reg.
 Art. 20 Charter
 Ref. from Landesverwaltungsgericht Kärnten, Austria, 16 May 2024
- * *Complex reasoning of the CJEU on compatibility of national rules on salary scale classification rules with EU rules. On the one hand, art 45(2) TFEU (and art. 7(1) Reg. on freedom of movement for workers) do NOT preclude, while on the other hand art. 45(1) does preclude the legislation of a MS under which periods of equivalent service completed by a person in another State of the EEA before that person entered into service as a civil servant in the first MS and which were not previously taken into account for the purposes of his or her salary classification, are taken into account retroactively when the situation of that civil servant with regard to the salary scale results from advancement based on seniority and not from promotion granted by virtue of a decision falling within the discretionary power of the administration, while such consideration is not provided for previous periods of equivalent service completed in the private sector and on the national territory. Additionally, art. 1, 2 and 6 Dir. 2000/78 (on equal treatment) must be interpreted as not precluding the legislation of a MS under which, first, periods of equivalent service completed by a person in another MS before that person entered into service as a civil servant in that first MS cannot be taken into account for the purposes of promotion where that civil servant has been promoted by virtue of a decision falling within the discretionary power of the administration and, secondly, such promotion can, in principle, take place only after several years of service, calculated from the reference date for advancement, provided that, first, the number of years of service to be completed before being eligible for promotion is not such that only older civil servants would be concerned and, secondly, the award of a promotion also depends on other criteria, unrelated to any consideration of age.*
- ☞ [CJEU 11 Feb. 2021, C-407/19](#) **Katoen Natie** EU:C:2021:107
 AG 10 Sep 2020 EU:C:2020:707
 * Art. 45 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
 Ref. from Raad van State, Belgium, 24 May 2019
 joined cases: C-407/19+C-471/19
- * *The CJEU decided that (Belgian) legislation which reserves dock work to recognised workers may be compatible with EU law provided it is aimed at ensuring safety in port areas and preventing workplace accidents. This legislation constitutes not only a restriction on both the freedom of establishment and the freedom to provide services, guaranteed by Arts 49 and 56 TFEU, but also on the free movement of workers under Art. 45 TFEU in so far as it is liable to have a dissuasive effect on employers and workers from other MSs. The CJEU examines whether the different parts of this legislation are necessary and appropriate for attaining the objective pursued.*
- ☞ [CJEU 7 May 2024, C-280/22](#) **Kinderrechtencolitie** EU:C:2024:421
 * Art. 16+21 TFEU Subject: Procedural Rights
 Art. 3(5)+6+14 ID Cards Reg.
 Ref. from Raad van State, Belgium, 8 Apr. 2022
 withdrawn
- * *Question is already answered in CJEU 21 Mar 2024, C-61/22.*
- ☞ [CJEU 10 Oct. 2019, C-703/17](#) **Krah** EU:C:2019:850
 AG 23 May 2019 EU:C:2019:450
 * Art. 45 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
 Art. 7(1) FMofW Reg.
 Ref. from Oberlandesgericht Wien, Austria, 15 Dec. 2017
- * Art. 20+21 Charter
- * *Art. 45 TFEU must be interpreted as precluding a provision under which previous professionally-relevant periods of service of a member of the teaching staff of a university in a MS can be recognised only up to a total period of four years if these services are equivalent or even identical to the services to be performed. Art. 7(1) of Reg. 492/2011 does not preclude such a provision if the previously performed services are not equivalent but only useful for the performance of the function. The CJEU ruled in this case on indirect discrimination. The question was whether previous professionally-relevant periods of services of a member of the teaching staff of a university in a MS can be recognized if these are not worked in that MS but elsewhere in the Union. The university of Vienna decided not to count this period of experience of more than 13 years in full but limited this period to 4 years. The Court ruled that such a calculus would discriminate EU citizens and that such a national provision is precluded (Art. 45 TFEU). In addition the Court made it clear that such previous professionally-relevant periods of services could only be taken into account if these services are identical or equivalent to the services performed, excluding periods which can only be qualified as 'useful' (Art. 7(1) Reg. 492/2011).*

- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 26 July 2015, C-218/14](#) **Kuldip Singh a.o.** EU:C:2015:476
AG 7 May 2015 EU:C:2015:306
- * Art. 7(1)(b)+13(2)(a) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Ref. from High Court, Ireland, 5 May 2014 and Family Members
- * *Article 13(2) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that a third-country national, divorced from a Union citizen, whose marriage lasted for at least three years before the commencement of divorce proceedings, including at least one year in the host Member State, cannot retain a right of residence in that Member State on the basis of that provision where the commencement of the divorce proceedings is preceded by the departure from that Member State of the spouse who is a Union citizen.*
- Article 7(1)(b) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that a Union citizen has sufficient resources for himself and his family members not to become a burden on the social assistance system of the host Member State during his period of residence even where those resources derive in part from those of his spouse who is a third-country national.*
- ☞ [CJEU 21 Feb. 2013, C-46/12](#) **L.N.** EU:C:2013:97
- * Art. 7(2)+24 Citizens Dir. Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. 45(2) TFEU
Ref. from Ankenævnet for Uddannelsesstøtten, Denmark, 26 Jan. 2012
- * *Articles 7(1)(c) and 24(2) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that a European Union citizen who pursues a course of studies in a host Member State whilst at the same time pursuing effective and genuine employment activities such as to confer on him the status of ‘worker’ within the meaning of Article 45 TFEU may not be refused maintenance aid for studies which is granted to the nationals of that Member State.*
- It is for the national court to make the necessary findings of fact in order to ascertain whether the employment activities of the applicant in the main proceedings are sufficient to confer that status on him. The fact that the person entered the territory of the host Member State with the principal intention of pursuing a course of study is not relevant for determining whether he is a ‘worker’ within the meaning of Article 45 TFEU and, accordingly, whether he is entitled to that aid under the same terms as a national of the host Member State under Article 7(2) of Regulation 1612/68.*
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 7 Oct. 2010, C-162/09](#) **Lassal** EU:C:2010:592
AG 11 May 2010 EU:C:2010:266
- * Art. 16 Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Ref. from Court of Appeal (England & Wales) (Civil Division), UK, 8 May 2009
- * *Article 16(1) and (4) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that:*
- *continuous periods of five years’ residence completed before the date of transposition of Directive 2004/38, namely 30 April 2006, in accordance with earlier European Union law instruments, must be taken into account for the purposes of the acquisition of the right of permanent residence pursuant to Article 16(1) thereof, and*
 - *absences from the host Member State of less than two consecutive years, which occurred before 30 April 2006 but following a continuous period of five years’ legal residence completed before that date do not affect the acquisition of the right of permanent residence pursuant to Article 16(1) thereof.*
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 14 Nov. 2017, C-165/16](#) **Lounes** EU:C:2017:862
AG 30 May 2017 EU:C:2017:407
- * Art. 3(1)+7+16 Citizens Dir. Subject: Family Members
Art. 21 TFEU
Ref. from High Court of Justice (England and Wales) (Adm. Court), UK, 21 Mar. 2016
- * *Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that, in a situation in which a citizen of the European Union (i) has exercised his freedom of movement by moving to and residing in a Member State other than that of which he is a national, under Article 7(1) or Article 16(1) of that directive, (ii) has then acquired the nationality of that Member State, while also retaining his nationality of origin, and (iii) several years later, has married a third-country national with whom he continues to reside in that Member State, that third-country national does not have a derived right of residence in the Member State in question on the basis of Directive 2004/38.*
- The third-country national is however eligible for a derived right of residence under Article 21(1) TFEU, on conditions which must not be stricter than those provided for by Directive 2004/38 for the grant of such a right to a third-country national who is a family member of a Union citizen who has exercised his right of freedom of movement by settling in a Member State other than the Member State of which he is a national.*

- ☞ [CJEU 24 Nov. 2022, C-638/20](#) **M.C.M.** EU:C:2022:916
AG 7 Apr 2022 EU:C:2022:285
- * Art. 7(2) FMofW Reg. Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. 45 TFEU
Ref. from National Board of Appeal for Student Aid, Sweden, 25 Nov. 2020
- * *The applicant is the Swedish child of a Swedish worker. MCM was born and lived his entire life in Spain where his father worked for 20 years. In 2011, the father returned to Sweden to work but the child remained in Spain. The child's request for financial aid from Sweden to pursue his studies abroad (in Spain) was rejected because under Swedish law the child had to be resident in Sweden or show that he had a connection with Sweden. The CJEU ruled that a worker cannot rely on Art. 7 of Reg. 492/2011 to claim equal treatment in respect of social benefits (in casu, student finance) against the authorities of his state of origin. Unequal treatment experienced by a worker in his state of origin may nonetheless be covered by Art. 45 TFEU which has a larger scope than Art. 7 of Reg. 492/2011 since it prohibits 'any other measure liable to constitute an obstacle to freedom of movement for workers' (para 29). The CJEU agrees with AG Medina that workers can rely on Art. 45 TFEU against their state of nationality to challenge measures liable to prevent or deter them from leaving their country of origin (para 32).*
The Court found that the Swedish legislation on the exportation of study finance could not be said to make the exercise of free movement rights less desirable since the award of the study finance would depend not only on the conduct of the father but also on a succession of hypothetical and uncertain future factors (para 34). Therefore, it ruled that the Swedish legislation cannot be interpreted as liable to hinder or make less attractive the exercise of the right to work by the father of the child. The Court's reasoning is based on the fact that the child had lived since birth in the host Member State and that the condition to show a connection with Sweden applied in respect of other nationals who did not meet the residence condition.
The CJEU ruled: Art. 45 TFEU and Art. 7(2) of Free Movement of Workers Regulation must be interpreted as meaning that those provisions do not preclude legislation of a MS by which the grant of financial aid for the pursuit of studies in the host MS, to the child of a person who has left the host MS in which that person worked in order to return to live in the first MS, of which he or she is a national, is made subject to the requirement that the child has a connection with the MS of origin, in a situation where:
** first, the child has lived since birth in the host MS and,*
** second, the MS of origin makes other nationals not satisfying the residence requirement and who apply for such financial aid to study in another MS subject to the requirement of the existence of a connection.*
- ☞ [CJEU 27 Apr. 2023, C-528/21](#) **M.D.** EU:C:2023:341
AG 24 Nov 2022 EU:C:2022:933
- * Art. 20 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Fővárosi Törvényszék, Hungary, 19 July 2021 and Exit and Entry
- * *Though this case is primarily a Return Directive ruling, the Court also considers that when withdrawing residence rights and issuing entry bans, as provided for by the Return Directive, Member States have to consider the implications of such a withdrawal or ban for a third-country national's family members who are nationals of a Member State even if they have never exercised their right to move and reside in Article 20 TFEU. This implies that a measure that is justified for reasons of public order or national security has to take all relevant circumstances into account, in particular the best interest of the child, if there is a relationship of dependency between the third-country national and a minor EU citizen.*
Art 20 TFEU must be interpreted as precluding a MS from adopting a decision banning entry into the territory of the European Union in respect of a TCN, who is a family member of a Union citizen, a national of that MS who has never exercised his or her right to free movement, without having examined beforehand whether there is, between those persons, a relationship of dependency which would de facto compel that Union citizen to leave the territory of the European Union altogether in order to go with that family member and, if so, whether the grounds on which that decision was adopted allow a derogation from the derived right of residence of that TCN.
Art. 5 Return Dir. must be interpreted as precluding that a TCN, who should have been the addressee of a return decision, is the subject – in a direct extension of the decision which withdrew from him or her, for reasons connected with national security, his or her right of residence on the territory of the MS concerned – of a decision banning entry into the territory of the European Union, adopted for identical reasons, without consideration being given, beforehand, to his or her state of health and, where appropriate, his or her family life and the best interests of his or her minor child.
Art. 5 Return Dir. must be interpreted as meaning that, where a national court is seised of an action against an entry ban decision adopted pursuant to national legislation which is incompatible with that Article 5 and which cannot be interpreted consistently with it, that court must disapply that legislation to the extent that it does not comply with that article and, where necessary to ensure the full effectiveness of Article 5, apply that article directly in the dispute before it.
Art. 13 Return Dir. must be interpreted as precluding a national practice by which the administrative authorities of a MS refuse to apply a final court decision ordering the suspension of enforcement of an entry ban decision on the ground that that decision had already been the object of an alert in the Schengen Information System.
Although this judgment is primarily a Return Directive ruling, the Court also considers that when withdrawing residence rights and issuing entry bans, as provided for by the Return Directive, Member States have to consider the implications of such a withdrawal or ban for a third-country national's family members who are nationals of a Member State even if they have never exercised their right to move and reside in Article 20 TFEU. This implies that a measure that is justified for reasons of public order or national security has to take all relevant circumstances into account, in particular the best interest of the child, if there is a relationship of dependency between the third-country national and a minor EU citizen.

- ☞ [CJEU 16 Jan. 2014, C-400/12](#) **M.G.** EU:C:2014:9
 * Art. 28(3)(a) Citizens Dir. Subject: Loss of Rights
 Ref. from Upper Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber), UK, 31 Aug. 2012
 * *On a proper construction of Article 28(3)(a) of Directive 2004/38, the 10-year period of residence referred to in that provision must, in principle, be continuous and must be calculated by counting back from the date of the decision ordering the expulsion of the person concerned.*
Article 28(3)(a) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that a period of imprisonment is, in principle, capable both of interrupting the continuity of the period of residence for the purposes of that provision and of affecting the decision regarding the grant of the enhanced protection provided for thereunder, even where the person concerned resided in the host Member State for the 10 years prior to imprisonment. However, the fact that that person resided in the host Member State for the 10 years prior to imprisonment may be taken into consideration as part of the overall assessment required in order to determine whether the integrating links previously forged with the host Member State have been broken.
- ☞ [CJEU 10 Jan. 2019, C-169/18](#) **Mahmood a.o.** EU:C:2019:5
 * Art. 5 Citizens Dir. Subject: Exit and Entry
 Ref. from Court of Appeal, Ireland, 2 Mar. 2018
 * *Since the referring court has noted that the Court's answer can no longer benefit the applicants in the main proceedings, the dispute in the main proceedings has become devoid of purpose and, consequently, an answer to the questions referred appears to be no longer necessary.*
- ☞ [CJEU 26 Feb. 2015, C-359/13](#) **Martens** EU:C:2015:118
 AG 24 Sep 2014 EU:C:2014:2240
 * Art. 20+21 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
 Ref. from Centrale Raad van Beroep, Netherlands, 27 June 2013
 * *Articles 20 TFEU and 21 TFEU must be interpreted as precluding legislation of a Member State, such as that at issue in the main proceedings, which makes the continued grant of funding for higher education outside that State subject to the rule that the student applying for such funding has resided in that Member State for a period of at least three out of the six years preceding his enrolment.*
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 25 July 2008, C-127/08](#) **Metock** EU:C:2008:449
 AG 11 Jun 2008 EU:C:2008:355
 * Art. 3(1) Citizens Dir. Subject: Family Members
 Ref. from High Court, Ireland, 25 Mar. 2008
 * *Directive 2004/38 precludes legislation of a Member State which requires a national of a non-member country who is the spouse of a Union citizen residing in that Member State but not possessing its nationality to have previously been lawfully resident in another Member State before arriving in the host Member State, in order to benefit from the provisions of that directive.*
Article 3(1) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that a national of a non-member country who is the spouse of a Union citizen residing in a Member State whose nationality he does not possess and who accompanies or joins that Union citizen benefits from the provisions of that directive, irrespective of when and where their marriage took place and of how the national of a non-member country entered the host Member State.
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 4 Oct. 2024, C-4/23](#) **Mirin** EU:C:2024:845
 AG 7 May 2024 EU:C:2024:385
 * Art. 2+8+21 TFEU Subject: Exit and Entry
 Art. 27 Citizens Dir.
 Ref. from Court of First Instance, Bucharest, Romania, 11 Aug. 2022
 * *In this case the CJEU clarifies what MS have to do, when requested to recognise a change in first name and gender lawfully acquired in another MS. Working from the premise that a person's identity and personal status is defined by one's name and gender, the CJEU crafts its answers on its settled case law regarding surnames (e.g. Garcia-Avello) and the ECtHR's case law on Art. 8 ECHR and sexual identity. Recalling that the ECtHR has already ruled that the Romanian law which requires a prior ruling of a Romanian court before a change of first name and identity can be registered in that MS's civil registration system is incompatible with Art. 8 ECHR, the CJEU rules that the requirement to obtain a national court ruling is also incompatible with EU law due to the inherent risk that the latter ruling might not align with the changes to gender and first name implemented by the first MS. The CJEU also clarifies that any changes in personal statute acquired in the UK before that MS's withdrawal from the EU may be relied on against an EU citizen's MS of origin.*

- ☞ [CJEU 30 June 2016, C-115/15](#) *N.A.* EU:C:2016:487
AG 14 Apr 2016 EU:C:2016:259
- * Art. 13(2) Citizens Dir.
Art. 10 FMofW Reg.
Art. 20+21 TFEU
Ref. from Court of Appeal (England & Wales) (Civil Division), UK, 30 Apr. 2015
Subject: Residence
- * *Article 13(2)(c) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that a third-country national, who is divorced from a Union citizen at whose hands she has been the victim of domestic violence during the marriage, cannot rely on the retention of her right of residence in the host Member State, on the basis of that provision, where the commencement of divorce proceedings post-dates the departure of the Union citizen spouse from that Member State.*
Article 12 of Regulation 1612/68 [now Art. 10 Reg. 492/2011] must be interpreted as meaning that a child and a parent who is a third-country national and who has sole custody of that child qualify for a right of residence in the host Member State, under that provision, in a situation, such as that in the main proceedings, where the other parent is a Union citizen and worked in that Member State, but ceased to reside there before the child began to attend school in that Member State.
Article 20 TFEU must be interpreted as meaning that it does not confer a right of residence in the host Member State either on a minor Union citizen, who has resided since birth in that Member State but is not a national of that State, or on a parent who is a third-country national and who has sole custody of that minor, where they qualify for a right of residence in that Member State under a provision of secondary EU law.
Article 21 TFEU must be interpreted as meaning that it confers on that minor Union citizen a right of residence in the host Member State, provided that that citizen satisfies the conditions set out in Article 7(1) of Directive 2004/38, which it is for the referring court to determine. If so, that same provision allows the parent who is the primary carer of that Union citizen to reside with that citizen in the host Member State.
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 26 Apr. 2022, C-368/20](#) *N.W. v Steiermark (AT)* EU:C:2022:298
AG 6 Oct 2021 EU:C:2021:821
- * Art. 21(1) TFEU
Ref. from Landesverwaltungsgericht Steiermark, Austria, 5 Aug. 2020
Subject: Equal Treatment
joined cases: C-368/20+C-369/20
- * *The CJEU answers the prejudicial question on temporarily reintroduction of internal border controls with reference to Art. 25(4) of the Schengen Border Code.*
- ☞ [CJEU 25 Apr. 2024, C-420/22](#) *N.W. & P.Q.* EU:C:2024:344
AG 23 Nov 2023 EU:C:2023:909
- * Art. 20 TFEU
Ref. from Szeged High Court, Hungary, 8 Aug. 2022
Subject: Procedural Rights
joined cases: C-420/22+C-528/22
- * *The CJEU established that though MS are not obliged to examine systematically and on their own initiative whether there is a relationship of dependency that requires them to issue a residence permit to an EU citizen's third-country national family member, they do have to ascertain, when they are considering whether to withdraw a residence permit issued to a family member on the basis of national law whether this will mean that the EU citizen is forced to leave the EU as a whole if the MS authorities are familiar with the fact that the third-country national has family ties with an EU citizen. The principle of national procedural autonomy and Art. 47 Charter apply to decisions to withdraw a third-country national family member's residence permit to protect national security. Where this is the case, the person concerned has to be able to acquaint himself with the reasons why the MS has invoked national security either by reading the decision himself, or by communicating those reasons to him upon request. This right is without prejudice to the court's right to be informed of the reasons underlying the decision by the competent authorities. It does not preclude MS from using information that has been provided to them by their national security authorities, as long as the decision withdrawing the residence permit provides reasons and it is evident that the decision has been taken after a specific assessment of all relevant facts, in the light of the principle of proportionality and fundamental rights have been observed, including, where appropriate, the best interest of the child. Art. 47 Charter requires MS to inform the person concerned or that person's representative of – at the very least – the substance of the grounds on which the decision taken against his or her is based. MS may decide to restrict the disclosure of some or all of the information in the file. However procedures ensuring access to classified information 'together with a complete prohibition on using the information thus obtained for the purposes of the administrative procedure or any judicial proceedings' (cons. 98) amounts to a breach of the rights of defence. Likewise, it is insufficient that the court hearing the case on the withdrawal of the right of residence has access to the information. Art 47 Charter does not require that the national court assessing the legality of a decision based on classified information is competent to assess whether the classification is lawful and provide access to all or the essence of the information where it considers that the classification is unlawful. Respect for the rights of defence does, however, require that that court draws 'the appropriate conclusions from any decision taken by the competent authorities not to disclose all or part of the grounds for that decision and the evidence relating thereto' (cons. 116).*

- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 5 Dec. 2023, C-128/22](#) **NORDIC** EU:C:2023:951
AG 7 Sep 2023 EU:C:2023:645
- * Art. 4+5+27+29 Citizens Dir. Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Rechtbank van Eerste Aanleg Brussel, Belgium, 23 Feb. 2022 and Exit and Entry
- * *In Case C-128/22 Nordic the Court of Justice was asked to rule on the compatibility of travel bans on non-essential travel and other restrictions such as screening and quarantine adopted by Belgium during the COVID-19 pandemic with Articles 27 and 29 of Directive 2004/38 and with Articles 23 and 25 of the Schengen Border Code (SBC), respectively. The Court has ruled that Articles 27(1) and 29(1) of Directive 2004/38 allow the adoption of measures of general application that restrict the free movement of EU citizens on public health grounds, that is, measures that restrict both the right to exit and the right to enter an EU state. The Court stresses that such measures can be laid down in an act with general application but they have to satisfy the procedural safeguards listed in Articles 30 to 32 of Directive 2004/38 as well as respect EU fundamental rights and the principles of non-discrimination and proportionality. Concerning the SBC the Court was asked if the control of the travel ban and of the other restrictions amounted to a border check carried out on public health grounds in breach of Article 23 SBC or to the reintroduction of internal border controls in breach of Article 25 SBC. The Court ruled that such measures are allowed under Article 23 SBC as long as they are performed in a manner clearly distinct from systematic checks on persons at the external borders. Nonetheless it further reasoned that in the context of a pandemic, Member States enjoy a certain amount of discretion justified by the precautionary principle as to the intensity, frequency and selectivity of controls performed in border areas. On Article 25 SBC the Court ruled that a threat to public health cannot justify the reintroduction of internal border controls but that the threat posed by a pandemic such as the Corona pandemic corresponds to a serious threat to public policy or internal security within the meaning of Article 25(1) SBC. The remaining conditions of Article 25-28SBC must also met to justify the reintroduction of internal border controls.*
- ☞ [CJEU 12 Mar. 2014, C-456/12](#) **O. & B.** EU:C:2014:135
AG 12 Dec 2013 EU:C:2013:837
- * Art. 3+6+7 Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Art. 20+21 TFEU and Family Members
Ref. from Raad van State, Netherlands, 10 Oct. 2012
- * *Article 21(1) TFEU must be interpreted as meaning that where a Union citizen has created or strengthened a family life with a third-country national during genuine residence, pursuant to and in conformity with the conditions set out in Article 7(1) and (2) and Article 16(1) and (2) of Directive 2004/38, in a Member State other than that of which he is a national, the provisions of that directive apply by analogy where that Union citizen returns, with the family member in question, to his Member State of origin. Therefore, the conditions for granting a derived right of residence to a third-country national who is a family member of that Union citizen, in the latter's Member State of origin, should not, in principle, be more strict than those provided for by that directive for the grant of a derived right of residence to a third-country national who is a family member of a Union citizen who has exercised his right of freedom of movement by becoming established in a Member State other than the Member State of which he is a national.*
- ☞ [CJEU 6 Dec. 2012, C-356/11](#) **O., S. & L.** EU:C:2012:776
AG 27 Sep 2012 EU:C:2012:595
- * Art. 3(1) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Art. 20 TFEU and Family Members
Ref. from Korkein hallinto-oikeus, Finland, 7 July 2011
- * *Article 20 TFEU must be interpreted as not precluding a Member State from refusing to grant a third country national a residence permit on the basis of family reunification where that national seeks to reside with his spouse, who is also a third country national and resides lawfully in that Member State and is the mother of a child from a previous marriage who is a Union citizen, and with the child of their own marriage, who is also a third country national, provided that such a refusal does not entail, for the Union citizen concerned, the denial of the genuine enjoyment of the substance of the rights conferred by the status of citizen of the Union, that being for the referring court to ascertain. Applications for residence permits on the basis of family reunification such as those at issue in the main proceedings are covered by Council Directive 2003/86 (on family reunification). Article 7(1)(c) of that directive must be interpreted as meaning that, while Member States have the faculty of requiring proof that the sponsor has stable and regular resources which are sufficient to maintain himself and the members of his family, that faculty must be exercised in the light of Articles 7 and 24(2) and (3) of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, which require the Member States to examine applications for family reunification in the interests of the children concerned and also with a view to promoting family life, and avoiding any undermining of the objective and the effectiveness of that directive. It is for the referring court to ascertain whether the decisions refusing residence permits at issue in the main proceedings were taken in compliance with those requirements.*
- ☞ [CJEU 10 July 2014, C-244/13](#) **Ogieriakhi** EU:C:2014:2068
AG 14 May 2014 EU:C:2014:323
- * Art. 16(2) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Ref. from High Court, Ireland, 30 Apr. 2013
- * *Article 16(2) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that a third-country national who, during a continuous period of five years before the transposition date for that directive, has resided in a Member State as the spouse of a Union citizen working in that Member State, must be regarded as having acquired a right of permanent residence under that provision, even though, during that period, the spouses decided to separate and commenced residing with other partners, and the home occupied by that national was no longer provided or made available by his spouse with Union citizenship.*

- ☞ [CJEU 16 Jan. 2014, C-378/12](#) **Onuekwere** EU:C:2014:13
AG 3 Oct 2013 EU:C:2013:640
- * Art. 16 Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Ref. from Upper Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber), UK, 3 Aug. 2012 and Loss of Rights
- * *Article 16(2) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that the periods of imprisonment in the host Member State of a third-country national, who is a family member of a Union citizen who has acquired the right of permanent residence in that Member State during those periods, cannot be taken into consideration in the context of the acquisition by that national of the right of permanent residence for the purposes of that provision.*
Article 16(2) and (3) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that the continuity of residence is interrupted by periods of imprisonment in the host Member State of a third-country national who is a family member of a Union citizen who has acquired the right of permanent residence in that Member State during those periods.
- ☞ [CJEU 22 June 2021, C-718/19](#) **Ordre des barreaux** EU:C:2021:505
AG 10 Feb 2021 EU:C:2021:103
- * Art. 20+21 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Cour Constitutionnelle, Belgium, 27 Sep. 2019
- * *Arts. 20 and 21 TFEU and the Citizens Directive do not preclude national regulations which apply to Union citizens and members of their families, during the period allotted to them to leave the territory of the host MS following the adoption of an expulsion decision taken in their regard for reasons of public order or during the extension of this period. The also do not preclude provisions aimed at avoiding the risk of absconding which are similar to those which, with regard to nationals of third countries, aim to transpose into national law Art. 7(3) Return Directive (2008/115), provided that the first provisions respect the general principles provided for in Art. 27 of Directive 2004/38 and that they are no less favorable than the second.*
However, these Arts. do oppose national regulations, which apply to Union citizens and members of their families, who, after the expiration of the allotted time limit or of the extension of that time limit, have not complied with a decision of removal taken against them for reasons of public order or public security, a detention measure for a maximum period of eight months for the purpose of removal.
This period (of 8 months) being identical to that applicable, in national law, to third-country nationals who have not complied with a return decision taken for such reasons, under Art. 6(1) Return Directive (2008/115).
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 22 May 2012, C-348/09](#) **P.I.** EU:C:2012:300
AG 6 Mar 2012 EU:C:2012:123
- * Art. 28(3) Citizens Dir. Subject: Loss of Rights
Ref. from Oberverwaltungsgericht für das Land Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany, 31 Aug. 2009
- * *Article 28(3)(a) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that it is open to the Member States to regard criminal offences such as those referred to in the second subparagraph of Article 83(1) TFEU as constituting a particularly serious threat to one of the fundamental interests of society, which might pose a direct threat to the calm and physical security of the population and thus be covered by the concept of ‘imperative grounds of public security’, capable of justifying an expulsion measure under Article 28(3), as long as the manner in which such offences were committed discloses particularly serious characteristics, which is a matter for the referring court to determine on the basis of an individual examination of the specific case before it.*
The issue of any expulsion measure is conditional on the requirement that the personal conduct of the individual concerned must represent a genuine, present threat affecting one of the fundamental interests of society or of the host Member State, which implies, in general, the existence in the individual concerned of a propensity to act in the same way in the future. Before taking an expulsion decision, the host Member State must take account of considerations such as how long the individual concerned has resided on its territory, his/her age, state of health, family and economic situation, social and cultural integration into that State and the extent of his/her links with the country of origin.
- ☞ [CJEU 13 June 2024, C-62/23](#) **Pedro Francisco** EU:C:2024:502
Art. 27 Citizens Dir. Subject: Loss of Rights
Ref. from Juzgado Admin. Barcelona, Spain, 9 Jan. 2023
- * *In this case the CJEU ruled that in its assessment whether a right of residence enjoyed by a third-country national family member of an EU citizen can be restricted, a Member State can take into account the fact that that family member was previously subject of an arrest, provided that there is an overall assessment of that conduct, in which the facts on which the arrest was based and the possible legal consequences thereof are considered expressly and in detail. To merit the conclusion that a previous arrest represents ‘a genuine, present and sufficiently serious threat to one of the fundamental interests of society’ MS have to establish that there are ‘consistent, objective and precise factors which allow for the reliability of the suspicions weighing on that person as a result of that arrest’ (cons. 36). In the admissibility assessment, the CJEU confirms that where MS decide to extend the scope of EU law, in Spain Dir. 2004/38 also applies to Spanish nationals who have not – previously – exercised free movement rights, it is competent to answer preliminary references made by national courts to ensure uniform application of those rules.*
- ☞ [CJEU 2 Feb. 2024, C-323/23](#) **Pensionsversicherungsanstalt** EU:C:2024:167
Art. 7 Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Ref. from Oberster Gerichtshof, Austria, 22 June 2023 and Family Members
withdrawn
- * *Question is withdrawn after referral to CJEU 21 Dec 2023, C-488/21.*

- ☞ [CJEU 17 Sep. 2017, C-184/16](#) *Petrea* EU:C:2017:684
AG 27 Apr 2017 EU:C:2017:324
- * Art. 27+32 Citizens Dir. Subject: Loss of Rights
Ref. from Dioikitiko Protodikeio Thessalonikis, Greece, 1 Apr. 2016 and Procedural Rights
- * *Directive 2004/38 and the protection of legitimate expectations do not preclude a Member State from, first, withdrawing a registration certificate wrongly issued to an EU citizen who was still subject to an exclusion order, and, secondly, adopting a removal order against him based on the sole finding that the exclusion order was still valid.*
- Directive 2004/38 and Return Directive 2008/115 do not preclude a decision to return an EU citizen, such as that at issue in the main proceedings, from being adopted by the same authorities and according to the same procedure as a decision to return a third-country national staying illegally referred to in Article 6(1) of Directive 2008/115, provided that the transposition measures of Directive 2004/38 which are more favourable to that EU citizen are applied.*
- The principle of effectiveness does not preclude a legal practice according to which a national of a Member State who is subject to a return order in circumstances such as those at issue in the main proceedings may not rely, in support of an action against that order, on the unlawfulness of the exclusion order previously adopted against him, in so far as the person concerned had effectively the possibility to contest that latter order in good time in the light of the provisions of Directive 2004/38.*
- Article 30 of Directive 2004/38 requires the Member States to take every appropriate measure with a view to ensuring that the person concerned understands the content and implications of a decision adopted under Article 27(1) of that directive but that it does not require that decision to be notified to him in a language he understands or which it is reasonable to assume he understands, although he did not bring an application to that effect.*
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 6 Sep. 2016, C-182/15](#) *Petruhhin* EU:C:2016:630
AG 10 May 2016 EU:C:2016:330
- * Art. 18+21 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. 19 Charter
- Ref. from Augstākā tiesa, Latvia, 22 Apr. 2015
- * *Article 18 TFEU and Article 21 TFEU must be interpreted as meaning that, when a Member State to which a Union citizen, a national of another Member State, has moved receives an extradition request from a third State with which the first Member State has concluded an extradition agreement, it must inform the Member State of which the citizen in question is a national and, should that Member State so request, surrender that citizen to it, in accordance with the provisions of Council Framework Decision 2002/584/JHA of 13 June 2002 on the European arrest warrant and the surrender procedures between Member States, as amended by Council Framework Decision 2009/299/JHA of 26 February 2009, provided that that Member State has jurisdiction, pursuant to its national law, to prosecute that person for offences committed outside its national territory.*
- Where a Member State receives a request from a third State seeking the extradition of a national of another Member State, that first Member State must verify that the extradition will not prejudice the rights referred to in Article 19 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.*
- ☞ [CJEU 18 June 2013, C-523/11](#) *Prinz & Seeberger* EU:C:2013:524
AG 21 Feb 2013 EU:C:2013:90
- * Art. 20+21 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Verwaltungsgericht Hannover, Germany, 13 Oct. 2011
- * *Articles 20 TFEU and 21 TFEU must be interpreted as meaning that they preclude legislation of a Member State which makes the award of an education grant for studies in another Member State for a period of more than one year subject to a sole condition, such as that laid down in Paragraph 16(3) of the Federal Law on assistance for education and training [Bundesgesetz über individuelle Förderung der Ausbildung (Bundesausbildungsförderungsgesetz)], as amended on 1 January 2008, by the twenty-second law amending the Federal Law on assistance for education and training, requiring the applicant to have had a permanent residence, within the meaning of that law, in national territory for at least three years before commencing those studies.*

- ☞ [CJEU 27 Feb. 2020, C-836/18](#) **R.H.** EU:C:2020:119
AG 21 Nov 2019 EU:C:2019:1004
- * Art. 20 TFEU Subject: Residence
Ref. from Tribunal Superior de Justicia de Castilla-La Mancha, Spain, 28 Dec. 2018
- * *Article 20 TFEU must be interpreted as precluding a MS from rejecting an application for family reunification submitted by the spouse, who is a TCN, of a Union citizen who holds the nationality of that MS and who has never exercised the freedom of movement, on the sole ground that that Union citizen does not have, for him or herself and his or her spouse, sufficient resources not to become a burden on the national social assistance system, without it having been examined whether there is a relationship of dependency between that Union citizen and his or her spouse of such a kind that, if the latter were refused a derived right of residence, that Union citizen would be obliged to leave the territory of the European Union as a whole and would thus be deprived of the effective enjoyment of the substance of the rights conferred by his or her status.*
Article 20 TFEU must be interpreted as meaning that a relationship of dependency, such as to justify the grant of a derived right of residence under that article, does not exist on the sole ground that the national of a MS, who is of full age and has never exercised the freedom of movement, and his or her spouse, who is of full age and a TCN, are required to live together, by virtue of the obligations arising out of the marriage under the law of the MS of which the Union citizen is a national.
The CJEU was asked to interpret the implications of a refusal to grant residence to a third-country national family member (spouse) of an EU citizen when Spanish domestic legislation requires that spouses live together. This is a follow up on K.A. (C-82/16) in which the CJEU ruled that an application for residence of a third-country national family member of an EU citizen cannot be excluded from examination without any account being taken of the details of his or her family life.
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 21 Mar. 2024, C-61/22](#) **R.L. v Landesh. Wiesbaden (DE)** EU:C:2024:251
AG 29 Jun 2023 EU:C:2023:520
- * Art. 4(3) Citizens Dir. Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. 3(5) ID Cards Reg.
Ref. from Verwaltungsgericht Wiesbaden, Germany, 1 Feb. 2022
- * *Does the obligation to take fingerprints and store them in identity cards in accordance with Art. 3(5) of Reg. 2019/1157, on strengthening the security of identity cards of Union citizens and of residence documents issued to Union citizens and their family members exercising their right of free movement, infringe higher-ranking EU law? According to the Court in Landeshauptstad Wiesbaden (C-61/22) the limitation on the exercise of the rights guaranteed in Articles 7 and 8 of the Charter resulting from the inclusion of two fingerprints in the storage medium of identity cards does not appear to be of a seriousness which is disproportionate when compared with the significance of the various objectives pursued by that measure. Accordingly, such a measure must be regarded as being based on a fair balance between those objectives and the fundamental rights involved. But Regulation 2019/1157 itself is invalid in so far as it was adopted on the basis of Article 21(2) TFEU. However, the effects of Regulation 2019/1157 are to be maintained until the entry into force of a new regulation based on Article 77(3) TFEU and intended to replace it.*
- ☞ [CJEU 13 Sep. 2018, C-618/16](#) **Rafal Prefeta** EU:C:2018:719
AG 28 Feb 2018 EU:C:2018:125
- * Art. 7(2)+7(3) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Ref. from Upper Tribunal, UK, 29 Nov. 2016 and Equal Treatment
- * *Chapter 2 of Annex XII to the Act concerning the conditions of accession of the Czech Republic, Estonia, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia, must be interpreted as permitting, during the transitional period provided for by that act, the United Kingdom to exclude a Polish national, such as Mr Rafal Prefeta, from the benefits of Article 7(3) of Directive 2004/38 when that person has not satisfied the requirement imposed by national law of having completed an uninterrupted 12-month period of registered work in the United Kingdom.*

- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 5 Sep. 2012, C-83/11](#) **Rahman a.o.** EU:C:2012:519
AG 27 Mar 2012 EU:C:2012:174
- * Art. 3(2) Citizens Dir. Subject: Family Members
Ref. from Upper Tribunal (Administrative Appeals Chamber), UK, 22 Feb. 2011
- * *On a proper construction of Article 3(2) of Directive 2004/38:*
– *the Member States are not required to grant every application for entry or residence submitted by family members of a Union citizen who do not fall under the definition in Article 2(2) of that directive, even if they show, in accordance with Article 10(2) thereof, that they are dependants of that citizen;*
– *it is, however, incumbent upon the Member States to ensure that their legislation contains criteria which enable those persons to obtain a decision on their application for entry and residence that is founded on an extensive examination of their personal circumstances and, in the event of refusal, is justified by reasons;*
– *the Member States have a wide discretion when selecting those criteria, but the criteria must be consistent with the normal meaning of the term ‘facilitate’ and of the words relating to dependence used in Article 3(2) and must not deprive that provision of its effectiveness; and*
– *every applicant is entitled to a judicial review of whether the national legislation and its application satisfy those conditions.*
In order to fall within the category, referred to in Article 3(2) of Directive 2004/38, of family members who are ‘dependants’ of a Union citizen, the situation of dependence must exist in the country from which the family member concerned comes, at the very least at the time when he applies to join the Union citizen on whom he is dependent.
On a proper construction of Article 3(2) of Directive 2004/38, the Member States may, in the exercise of their discretion, impose particular requirements relating to the nature and duration of dependence, provided that those requirements are consistent with the normal meaning of the words relating to the dependence referred to in Article 3(2)(a) of the directive and do not deprive that provision of its effectiveness.
The question whether issue of the residence card referred to in Article 10 of Directive 2004/38 may be conditional on the requirement that the situation of dependence for the purposes of Article 3(2)(a) of that directive has endured in the host Member State does not fall within the scope of the directive.
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 13 Sep. 2016, C-165/14](#) **Rendón Marín** EU:C:2016:675
AG 4 Feb 2016 EU:C:2016:75
- * Art. 20+21 TFEU Subject: Residence
Ref. from Tribunal Supremo, Sala de lo Contencioso-Administrativo, Spain, 7 Apr. 2014 and Family Members
- * *Article 21 TFEU and Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as precluding national legislation which requires a third-country national to be automatically refused the grant of a residence permit on the sole ground that he has a criminal record where he is the parent of a minor child who is a Union citizen and a national of a Member State other than the host Member State and who is his dependant and resides with him in the host Member State.*
Article 20 TFEU must be interpreted as precluding the same national legislation which requires a third-country national who is a parent of minor children who are Union citizens in his sole care to be automatically refused the grant of a residence permit on the sole ground that he has a criminal record, where that refusal has the consequence of requiring those children to leave the territory of the European Union.
- ☞ [CJEU 16 Jan. 2014, C-423/12](#) **Reyes** EU:C:2014:16
AG 6 Nov 2013 EU:C:2013:719
- * Art. 2(2)(c) Citizens Dir. Subject: Family Members
Ref. from Kammarrätten i Stockholm, Migrationsöverdomstolen, Sweden, 17 Sep. 2012
- * *Article 2(2)(c) of Directive 2004/38, must be interpreted as meaning that a Member State cannot require a direct descendant who is 21 years old or older, in circumstances such as those in the main proceedings, in order to be regarded as dependent and thus come within the definition of a family member under Article 2(2)(c) of that provision, to have tried unsuccessfully to obtain employment or to obtain subsistence support from the authorities of his country of origin and/or otherwise to support himself.*
Article 2(2)(c) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that the fact that a relative – due to personal circumstances such as age, education and health – is deemed to be well placed to obtain employment and in addition intends to start work in the Member State does not affect the interpretation of the requirement in that provision that he be a ‘dependant’.
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 2 Mar. 2010, C-135/08](#) **Rottmann** EU:C:2010:104
AG 30 Sep 2009 EU:C:2009:558
- * Art. 20 TFEU Subject: Loss of Rights
Ref. from Bundesverwaltungsgericht, Germany, 3 Apr. 2008
- * *It is not contrary to European Union law, in particular to Article 17 EC, for a Member State to withdraw from a citizen of the Union the nationality of that State acquired by naturalisation when that nationality was obtained by deception, on condition that the decision to withdraw observes the principle of proportionality.*
- ☞ [CJEU 27 Mar. 2014, C-322/13](#) **Rüffer** EU:C:2014:189
- * Art. 18+21 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Tribunale di Bolzano, Italy, 13 June 2013
- * *Articles 18 TFEU and 21 TFEU must be interpreted as precluding national rules, such as those at issue in the main proceedings, which grant the right to use a language other than the official language of that State in civil proceedings brought before the courts of a Member State which are situated in a specific territorial entity, only to citizens of that State who are domiciled in the same territorial entity.*

- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 8 Mar. 2011, C-34/09](#) *Ruiz Zambrano* EU:C:2011:124
AG 30 Sep 2010 EU:C:2010:560
- * Art. 20 TFEU Subject: Residence
Ref. from Tribunal du travail de Bruxelles, Belgium, 26 Jan. 2009 and Family Members
- * *Article 20 TFEU is to be interpreted as meaning that it precludes a Member State from refusing a third country national upon whom his minor children, who are European Union citizens, are dependent, a right of residence in the Member State of residence and nationality of those children, and from refusing to grant a work permit to that third country national, in so far as such decisions deprive those children of the genuine enjoyment of the substance of the rights attaching to the status of European Union citizen.*
- ☞ [CJEU 12 Mar. 2011, C-391/09](#) *Runevič-Vardyn* EU:C:2011:291
- * Art. 21 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Vilniaus Miesto 1 Apylinkės Teismas, Lithuania, 2 Oct. 2009
- * *National rules which provide that a person's surnames and forenames may be entered on the certificates of civil status of that State only in a form which complies with the rules governing the spelling of the official national language relate to a situation which does not come within the scope of Council Directive 2000/43/EC of 29 June 2000 implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of racial or ethnic origin.*
Article 21 TFEU must be interpreted as:
- *not precluding the competent authorities of a Member State from refusing, pursuant to national rules which provide that a person's surnames and forenames may be entered on the certificates of civil status of that State only in a form which complies with the rules governing the spelling of the official national language, to amend, on the birth certificate and marriage certificate of one of its nationals, the surname and forename of that person in accordance with the spelling rules of another Member State;*
 - *not precluding the competent authorities of a Member State from refusing, in circumstances such as those at issue in the main proceedings and pursuant to those same rules, to amend the joint surname of a married couple who are citizens of the Union, as it appears on the certificates of civil status issued by the Member State of origin of one of those citizens, in a form which complies with the spelling rules of that latter State, on condition that that refusal does not give rise, for those Union citizens, to serious inconvenience at administrative, professional and private levels, this being a matter which it is for the national court to decide. If that proves to be the case, it is also for that court to determine whether the refusal to make the amendment is necessary for the protection of the interests which the national rules are designed to secure and is proportionate to the legitimate aim pursued;*
 - *not precluding the competent authorities of a Member State from refusing, in circumstances such as those at issue in the main proceedings and pursuant to those same rules, to amend the marriage certificate of a citizen of the Union who is a national of another Member State in such a way that the forenames of that citizen are entered on that certificate with diacritical marks as they were entered on the certificates of civil status issued by his Member State of origin and in a form which complies with the rules governing the spelling of the official national language of that latter State.*
- ☞ [CJEU 18 June 2020, C-754/18](#) *Ryan Air* EU:C:2020:478
AG 27 Feb 2020 EU:C:2020:31
- * Art. 5(2)+20 Citizens Dir. Subject: Exit and Entry
Ref. from Fővárosi Közigazgatási és Munkaügyi Bíróság, Hungary, 3 Dec. 2018 and Family Members
- * *The CJEU first of all clarifies the exemption for TCN family members of EU citizens from holding a visa when entering a MS other than the MS state where they are permanent resident. The CJEU interpreted the short stay visa exemption in Art. 5(2) of Dir. 2004/38 as meaning that the possession of a permanent residence card referred to in Art. 20 of that directive also applies to a TCN family member of a Union citizen with a permanent residence card.*
Secondly, the fact that the permanent residence card is issued by a MS which is not part of the Schengen area is irrelevant. Thirdly, as a MS can only issue a permanent residence card ex Art. 20(1) of Dir. 2004/38 to persons who have the status of TCN family member of an EU citizen, possession of a permanent residence card constitutes sufficient proof that the holder of that card is a family member of a Union citizen. The person concerned is entitled, without further verification or justification, to enter the territory of a MS without a short stay visa under Art. 5(2) of that directive.

- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 1 Aug. 2022, C-411/20](#) **S. v Familienkasse (DE)** EU:C:2022:602
AG 16 Dec 2021 EU:C:2021:1017
- * Art. 6+24(2) Citizens Dir. Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. 20 TFEU
Ref. from Finanzgericht Bremen, Germany, 2 Sep. 2020
- * *Art. 4 of Reg. 883/2004 (on the coordination of social security systems) must be interpreted as precluding legislation of a MS under which a Union citizen, who is a national of another MS, who has established his or her habitual residence on the territory of the first MS and who is economically inactive in so far as he or she is not in gainful employment in that State, is refused an entitlement to ‘family benefits’, within the meaning of Art. 3(1)(j) of that regulation, read in conjunction with Art. 1(z) thereof, during the first three months of his or her residence in the territory of that MS, whereas an economically inactive national of that MS is entitled to such benefits, including during the first three months following his or her return to the same MS after having made use, under EU law, of his or her right to move and reside in another MS.*
Art. 24(2) of Dir. 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that it is not applicable to such legislation.
In this case the Court held that as a family benefit falls within the scope of Reg. 4883/2004, mobile EU citizens enjoy equal treatment by virtue of Art. 4 of that Regulation in their host-MS if their right to reside follows from Art. 6(1) read in conjunction with Art. 14(1) Dir. 2004/38. Art. 24(2) Dir. 2004/38 does not apply to these cases as family benefits are not intended to cover an individual’s basic needs, but rather, are granted automatically to those who satisfy objective criteria without an individual assessment.
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 12 Mar. 2014, C-457/12](#) **S. & G.** EU:C:2014:136
AG 12 Dec 2013 EU:C:2013:842
- * Art. 3+6+7 Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Art. 20+21 TFEU and Family Members
Ref. from Raad van State, Netherlands, 10 Oct. 2012
- * *Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as not precluding a refusal by a Member State to grant a right of residence to a third-country national who is a family member of a Union citizen where that citizen is a national of and resides in that Member State but regularly travels to another Member State in the course of his professional activities.*
Article 45 TFEU must be interpreted as conferring on a third-country national who is the family member of a Union citizen a derived right of residence in the Member State of which that citizen is a national, where the citizen resides in that Member State but regularly travels to another Member State as a worker within the meaning of that provision, if the refusal to grant such a right of residence discourages the worker from effectively exercising his rights under Article 45 TFEU, which it is for the referring court to determine.
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 26 Mar. 2019, C-129/18](#) **S.M.** EU:C:2019:248
AG 26 Feb 2019 EU:C:2019:140
- * Art. 2(2)+3(2) Citizens Dir. Subject: Family Members
Art. 24(2) Charter
Ref. from Supreme Court, UK, 19 Feb. 2018
- * *The concept of a ‘direct descendant’ of a citizen of the Union referred to in Art. 2(2)(c) must be interpreted as not including a child who has been placed in the permanent legal guardianship of a citizen of the Union under the Algerian Kafala system, because that placement does not create any parent-child relationship between them.*
However, it is for the competent national authorities to facilitate the entry and residence of such a child as one of the other family members of a citizen of the Union pursuant to Article 3(2)(a) of that directive, read in the light of Article 7 and Article 24(2) of the Charter, by carrying out a balanced and reasonable assessment of all the current and relevant circumstances of the case which takes account of the various interests in play and, in particular, of the best interests of the child concerned.
In the event that it is established, following that assessment, that the child and its guardian, who is a citizen of the Union, are called to lead a genuine family life and that that child is dependent on its guardian, the requirements relating to the fundamental right to respect for family life, combined with the obligation to take account of the best interests of the child, demand, in principle, that that child be granted a right of entry and residence in order to enable it to live with its guardian in his or her host Member State.
This case is on the issue of a foster child and whether the concept of a direct descendant of an EU citizen includes a child that has been put in the care and legal guardianship of an EU citizen under the Islamic Kafala system. The CJEU ruled that such a child can not be seen as a direct descendant because the Kafala system does not create any parent-child relationship. However, the CJEU also ruled that if the child and its guardian lead a genuine family life, the fundamental right to respect for family life and the obligation to take account of the best interests of the child demand that the child be granted a right of entry and residence to enable it to live with its guardian in his or her host Member State.

- ☞ [CJEU 20 June 2024, C-540/22](#) *S.N. a.o.* EU:C:2024:530
AG 30 Nov 2023 EU:C:2023:937
- * Art. 56+57 TFEU Subject: Residence
Ref. from Rechtbank Den Haag (zp Middelburg), Netherlands, 11 Aug. 2022
- * *In this case the issue is whether the free movement of services guaranteed by Art. 56 and 57 TFEU include a right derived therefrom of residence in a MS for third-country workers who may be employed in that MS by a service provider established in another MS without an individual residence permit? In this case a Slovak undertaking had posted Ukrainian workers to a Dutch company in order to carry out work in the Netherlands. The Ukrainians hold temporary residence permits issued by the Slovak authorities. In accordance with Dutch law, the Ukrainians must also obtain Dutch residence permits after the expiry of a 90-day period. In addition, fees are collected for each permit application. In its judgment, the Court holds that the obligation, for service providers established in another Member State, to apply for a residence permit for each posted third-country worker, so that that worker may have a secure document, proving that the posting is lawful, constitutes a measure appropriate for attaining the objective of increasing legal certainty for such workers. That permit is proof of their right to reside in the host Member State. The objective to check that the worker concerned does not represent a threat to public policy is also capable of justifying a restriction on the freedom to provide services. The amount of the fees cannot be excessive or unreasonable and must approximately correspond to the administrative costs.*
- ☞ [CJEU 25 Apr. 2024, C-684/22](#) *S.Ö.* EU:C:2024:345
AG 14 Dec 2023 EU:C:2023:999
- * Art. 20 TFEU Subject: Loss of Rights
Ref. from Verwaltungsgericht Düsseldorf, Germany, 8 Nov. 2022
joined cases: C-684/22+C-685/22+C-686/22
- * *These joined cases concern the compatibility of German nationality law with EU citizenship (Article 20 TFEU), which allows for the automatic loss of German nationality upon the voluntary acquisition of another nationality. The applicants are former naturalised German citizens of Turkish origin who, following naturalization in Germany, have reacquired Turkish nationality without requesting the permission of the competent national authorities to retain their German nationality. This condition was introduced in law as of 1 January 2000, while cases up to 31 December 1999 were covered by different rules. All applicants lost ex lege their German nationality when the authorities became aware of their reacquisition of Turkish nationality. The CJEU was asked to rule on the compatibility with Article 20 TFEU of: (a) the German advance permission procedure for retaining nationality upon voluntary acquisition of another nationality and (b) the fact that in this permission procedure the consequences of the loss of German and EU citizenship are not examined from the perspective of EU law. Rather, what is examined is the existence of a special reason for acquisition of another nationality while retaining the German one. The CJEU ruled that protecting the special bond of nationality by prohibiting dual nationality is a legitimate interest for EU states which they can pursue if their laws do not violate the principle of proportionality. Automatic loss of nationality and the requirement of an advance permission were not considered inconsistent with the principle of proportionality as long as they allow for an individual examination of the consequences of loss of EU citizenship. The effectiveness of the rights of EU citizenship require that the person is duly informed about the possibility to request an examination and the time limit for it, which is for the national court to examine. Relevant factors include the fact that naturalization required the applicants to give up their Turkish nationality and the context in which they reapplied for Turkish nationality, namely the reform of German nationality law which may have had a negative impact on the possibility to effectively initiate the advance permission procedure. If the applicants were not duly informed, there should be a possibility to carry out the individual examination as an ancillary issue in the context of an application for a travel document or any other document showing nationality, including the possibility to order the ex tunc recovery of nationality.*
- ☞ [CJEU 15 Sep. 2022, C-22/21](#) *S.R.S. & A.A. v Justice (IE)* EU:C:2022:683
AG 10 Mar 2022 EU:C:2022:183
- * Art. 3 Citizens Dir. Subject: Family Members
Ref. from Supreme Court, Ireland, 12 Jan. 2021
- * *The question in this case concerns the interpretation of the notion of family member who is a member of the household of a Union citizen under Art. 3(2)(a) Citizens Dir. The applicants are a UK national (S.R.S.) who has moved to Ireland for work-related reasons in 2015, and his cousin (A.A.) a Pakistan national who moved to the UK for study purposes and who joined S.R.S. in Ireland two months after his move. In the UK, they lived together with other direct family members of S.R.S. in the same house for which S.R.S. paid the rent. Irish authorities rejected A.A.'s application for residence on grounds that mere cohabitation at the same address was not sufficient to establish that S.R.S. and A.A. were members of the same household, nor that S.R.S. was the head of that household as required under Irish law. According to the CJEU Art. 3(2)(a) Citizens Dir. must be interpreted as meaning that the concept of 'any other family members who are members of the household of the Union citizen having the primary right of residence', mentioned in that provision, refers to persons who have a relationship of dependence with that citizen, based on close and stable personal ties, forged within the same household, in the context of a shared domestic life going beyond a mere temporary cohabitation entered into for reasons of pure convenience. See for the conclusion of the AG in this case the editorial of NEFIS 2022/1.*

- ☞ [CJEU 19 June 2014, C-507/12](#) **Saint Prix** EU:C:2014:2007
 * Art. 7(3) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
 Art. 45 TFEU
 Ref. from Supreme Court, UK, 8 Nov. 2012
 * *Article 45 TFEU must be interpreted as meaning that a woman who gives up work, or seeking work, because of the physical constraints of the late stages of pregnancy and the aftermath of childbirth retains the status of ‘worker’, within the meaning of that article, provided she returns to work or finds another job within a reasonable period after the birth of her child.*
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 18 Dec. 2014, C-202/13](#) **Sean McCarthy** EU:C:2014:2450
 AG 20 May 2014 EU:C:2014:345
 * Art. 5+10+35 Citizens Dir. Subject: Exit and Entry
 Ref. from High Court of Justice (England and Wales) (Adm. Court), UK, 17 Apr. 2013 and Family Members
 * *Both Article 35 of Directive 2004/38 and Article 1 of the Protocol (No 20) on the application of certain aspects of Article 26 of the TFEU must be interpreted as not permitting a Member State to require, in pursuit of an objective of general prevention, family members of a citizen of the European Union who are not nationals of a Member State and who hold a valid residence card, issued under Article 10 of Directive 2004/38 by the authorities of another Member State, to be in possession, pursuant to national law, of an entry permit, such as the EEA (European Economic Area) family permit, in order to be able to enter its territory.*
- New ☞ [CJEU 12 Mar. 2026, C-43/24](#) **Shipova** EU:C:2026:183
 AG 4 Sep 2025 EU:C:2025:657
 * Art. 8+21 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
 Art. 4 Citizens Dir.
 Art. 7+45 Charter
 Ref. from Varhoven Kasatsionen sad, Bulgaria, 23 Jan. 2024
 * *This case answers the question whether Bulgarian law - which does not allow amendment of gender, name, or personal identification data for transgender persons - violates EU law when applied to a Bulgarian national, K.M.H., who exercised her EU free-movement rights by living in Italy. Bulgaria’s highest civil court sought clarification from the CJEU on whether such national rules, reinforced by a binding constitutional judgment restricting “sex” to its biological meaning, are compatible with Art. 21 TFEU, 4(3) of Dir. 2004/38, and Art. 7 of the Charter. The applicant argued that the inability to update her civil status data creates serious administrative and personal obstacles - especially given the mismatch between her lived gender and her identity documents - thus hindering the practical exercise of free movement rights. The CJEU noted that while civil-status matters fall within national competence, MSs must exercise that competence consistently with EU law. A refusal to recognise or amend gender data can impede free movement by forcing individuals to continuously dispel doubts about their identity. Inconsistencies between lived gender and official documents constitute a restriction under Art. 21 TFEU, unless they pursue legitimate EU recognised public interest objectives, which Bulgaria did not demonstrate. The CJEU stressed that Art. 7 of the Charter aligns with Art. 8 ECHR, which protects gender identity and obliges states to provide accessible procedures for legal gender recognition. The CJEU concluded that Bulgarian legislation and judicial interpretations preventing amendment of gender data breach EU law where they unjustifiably restrict a mobile EU citizen’s rights. National courts must disapply conflicting constitutional interpretations.*
- ☞ [CJEU 5 May 2011, C-434/09](#) **Shirley McCarthy** EU:C:2011:277
 AG 25 Nov 2010 EU:C:2010:718
 * Art. 21 TFEU Subject: Residence
 Ref. from Supreme Court, UK, 5 Nov. 2009 and Family Members
 * *Article 3(1) of Directive 2004/38, must be interpreted as meaning that that directive is not applicable to a Union citizen who has never exercised his right of free movement, who has always resided in a Member State of which he is a national and who is also a national of another Member State. Article 21 TFEU is not applicable to a Union citizen who has never exercised his right of free movement, who has always resided in a Member State of which he is a national and who is also a national of another Member State, provided that the situation of that citizen does not include the application of measures by a Member State that would have the effect of depriving him of the genuine enjoyment of the substance of the rights conferred by virtue of his status as a Union citizen or of impeding the exercise of his right of free movement and residence within the territory of the Member States.*
- ☞ [CJEU 8 May 2025, C-130/24](#) **Stadt Wuppertal** EU:C:2025:340
 * Art. 20 TFEU Subject: Residence
 Ref. from Verwaltungsgericht Düsseldorf, Germany, 16 Jan. 2024
 * *The CJEU confirms its interpretation of Art. 20 TFEU. This case adds to our understanding of the right of residence enjoyed by third-country national family members of EU citizens that this right is acquired directly under EU law when the conditions subject to which this right is enjoyed are satisfied. It is lost when the conditions are no longer satisfied. The crucial condition is that of dependency, which, in the case of a parent – child relationship, is the birth of the child. As the right of residence is derived directly from EU law, a residence permit that is issued to the family member by the national authorities is declaratory by nature. Although the right of residence flowing from Art. 20 TFEU is not absolute and can, under very special circumstances, be refused by a Member State, this does not mean that Member States can introduce exceptions to the enjoyment of that right, which are disproportional in relation to the objective pursued by such exceptions. In this case the CJEU finds that a condition that the third-country national family member has to apply for and be issued with a visa in the country of origin is a disproportionate requirement.*

- ☞ [CJEU 10 July 2025, C-257/24](#) **Städteregion Aachen** EU:C:2025:567
 * Art. 45 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
 Art. 7(2) FMofW Reg.
 Ref. from Varhoven Kasatsionen sad, Bulgaria, 23 Jan. 2024
- * *This case concerns a minor German Irish national resident with her parents in Belgium. PE has a mental disability requiring specific care. The mother is a German national working in Germany, while the father is an Irish national working in the Netherlands. PE requested from the German municipality where the mother worked school assistance benefits for disabled children. This request was denied on grounds that being habitually resident abroad she did not meet the residence condition under the applicable German law.*
The Court clarified that the benefit in question was neither a social security benefit covered by Article 3 of Regulation 883/2004 (the social security coordination regulation) neither a special non-contributory benefit under the same regulation. The Court categorised the benefit in question as a social advantage under Article 7(2) Reg. 492/2011 to which frontier workers are entitled to on the same conditions as national workers. The residence condition was deemed to amount to indirect discrimination because it places frontier workers resident in another EU state at a disadvantage. The Court ruled that there is no objective justification for this treatment and the residence condition was judged to go beyond what is necessary to attain the objectives of the German legislation. To this end it rejected the arguments that the residence condition was necessary to ensure:
 (a) the existence of a genuine link between the social benefit claimant and the state granting it and
 (b) to preserve the financial balance of the German social security system.
- ☞ [CJEU 11 Apr. 2019, C-483/17](#) **Tarola** EU:C:2019:309
 * Art. 7(1)(a)+7(3)(c) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
 Ref. from Court of Appeal, Ireland, 9 Aug. 2017
- * *Art. 7(1)(a) and (3)(c) must be interpreted as meaning that a national of a Member State who, having exercised his right to free movement, acquired, in another Member State, the status of worker within the meaning of Article 7(1)(a) of that directive, on account of the activity he pursued there for a period of two weeks, otherwise than under a fixed-term employment contract, before becoming involuntarily unemployed, retains the status of worker for a further period of no less than six months under those provisions, provided that he has registered as a jobseeker with the relevant employment office.*
It is for the referring court to determine whether, in accordance with the principle of equal treatment guaranteed in Art. 24(1) of Directive 2004/38, that national is, as a result, entitled to receive social assistance payments or, as the case may be, social security benefits on the same basis as if he were a national of the host Member State.
- New** ☞ [CJEU 11 Dec. 2025, C-789/23](#) **Tatrauské** EU:C:2025:956
 AG 22 May 2025 EU:C:2025:378
 * Art. 21(1) TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
 Ref. from Lietuvos vyriausiasis, Lithuania, 21 Dec. 2023
- * *This case concerns an application to have a marriage contract concluded in Italy registered in the Republic of Lithuania's register of marriage contracts. The application was denied because the contract did not contain the Lithuanian personal identification number of at least one of the parties to the contract. The CJEU was asked to rule whether the requirement violated Art. 21(1) TFEU since it was applicable only to marriage contracts concluded abroad but not to those concluded in Lithuania. The Court reasoned that the above-mentioned requirement amounted to a restriction on the rights conferred by Art. 21(1) TFEU because it placed EU citizens who had made use of the right to free movement at a disadvantage compared to those who had concluded their marriage contracts in Lithuania. The restriction was based on a legitimate objective that had public interest considerations, namely ensuring the accuracy and authenticity of the information contained in the registers. However, the Court was unconvinced about the necessity of the requirement. It reasoned that there were alternative methods than requiring a Lithuanian personal identification number for verifying the correct identity of those registering a marriage contract. Consequently, it ruled that Art. 21(1) TFEU must be interpreted as precluding legislation of a MS under which the registration in the Register of Marriage Contracts of a marriage contract concluded in another MS is subject to the requirement that that contract contains the personal identification number, issued by that first MS, of at least one of the two spouses, where such a requirement is not laid down in respect of the registration, in that register, of a marriage contract concluded in that MS and where the information contained in that contract makes it possible to identify the persons who concluded that contract.*
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 23 Feb. 2010, C-480/08](#) **Teixeira** EU:C:2010:83
 * Art. 10 FMofW Reg. Subject: Residence
 Ref. from Court of Appeal (England & Wales) (Civil Division), UK, 7 Nov. 2008
- * *1. A national of a Member State who was employed in another Member State in which his or her child is in education can claim, in the capacity of primary carer for that child, a right of residence in the host Member State on the sole basis of Article 12 of Regulation 1612/68 (Now: Art. 10 Reg. 492/2011) without being required to satisfy the conditions laid down in Directive 2004/38.*
2. The right of residence in the host Member State of the parent who is the primary carer of a child exercising the right to pursue his or her education in accordance with Article 12 of Regulation 1612/68 is not conditional on that parent having sufficient resources not to become a burden on the social assistance system of that Member State during the period of residence and having comprehensive sickness insurance cover there.
3. The right of residence in the host Member State of the parent who is the primary carer for a child of a migrant worker, where that child is in education in that State, is not conditional on one of the child's parents having worked as a migrant worker in that Member State on the date on which the child started in education.
4. The right of residence in the host Member State of the parent who is the primary carer for a child of a migrant worker, where that child is in education in that State, ends when the child reaches the age of majority, unless the child continues to need the presence and care of that parent in order to be able to pursue and complete his or her education.

- ☞ [CJEU 15 June 2023, C-411/22](#) *Thermalhotel* EU:C:2023:490
 * Art. 7(2) FMofW Reg. Subject: Equal Treatment
 Art. 45 TFEU
 Ref. from Supreme Administrative Court, Austria, 24 May 2022
- * *This case raises the question which state should pay compensation for loss of earnings suffered by frontier workers ordered to isolate because they tested positive for Covid-19 by the competent health authorities of their state of residence. Under Austrian law compensation could be paid only in respect of workers who had been ordered to isolate by the Austrian competent authority. The Court was asked to clarify if such compensation could be seen as a sickness benefit under Reg. 883/2004 and if not, if Art. 45 TFEU and 7 Reg. 492/2011 preclude compensation being paid only in respect of workers ordered to isolate by Austrian authorities. The Court clarifies that compensation for isolation is not a sickness benefit since it does not meet the essential characteristics of such a benefit under Reg. 883/2004 since its aim is not the recovery of the person concerned but the protection of public health. Finally, the Court ruled that the Austrian legislation introduced an indirect residence requirement that in the absence of justification amounts to indirect discrimination in the enjoyment of social benefits under Art 7(2) Reg. 492/2011.*
Art. 3(1)(a) Reg. 883/2004 must be interpreted as meaning that compensation, financed by the State, which is due to workers for the pecuniary disadvantages caused by the impediment to their employment during their isolation as persons infected with, suspected of being infected with, or suspected of being contagious with COVID-19 does not constitute a 'sickness benefit', referred to in that provision, and does not therefore come within the scope of that regulation.
Art. 45 TFEU and Art. 7 of Reg. 492/2011 must be interpreted as precluding legislation of a MS under which the granting of compensation for loss of earnings suffered by workers as a result of isolation ordered following a positive COVID-19 test result is subject to the condition that the imposition of the isolation measure be ordered by an authority of that MS under that legislation.
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 12 Mar. 2019, C-221/17](#) *Tjebbes* EU:C:2019:189
 AG 12 Jul 2018 EU:C:2018:572
 * Art. 20+21 TFEU Subject: Loss of Rights
 Ref. from Raad van State, Netherlands, 27 Apr. 2017
- * Art. 7+24 Charter
- * *Article 20 TFEU, read in the light of Articles 7 and 24 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, must be interpreted as not precluding legislation of a Member State such as that at issue in the main proceedings, which provides under certain conditions for the loss, by operation of law, of the nationality of that Member State, which entails, in the case of persons who are not also nationals of another Member State, the loss of their citizenship of the Union and the rights attaching thereto, in so far as the competent national authorities, including national courts where appropriate, are in a position to examine, as an ancillary issue, the consequences of the loss of that nationality and, where appropriate, to have the persons concerned recover their nationality ex tunc in the context of an application by those persons for a travel document or any other document showing their nationality. In the context of that examination, the authorities and the courts must determine whether the loss of the nationality of the Member State concerned, when it entails the loss of citizenship of the Union and the rights attaching thereto, has due regard to the principle of proportionality so far as concerns the consequences of that loss for the situation of each person concerned and, if relevant, for that of the members of their family, from the point of view of EU law.*
After Rottmann (C-135/08), this is the second case ever addressing loss of nationality leading to loss of EU citizenship and the rights attached to it. The Court of Justice has stated that loss of nationality on grounds which aim at ensuring that there is a genuine link between the person concerned and his State of nationality is not precluded by EU law. However, the competent national authorities must be able to examine the consequences of such loss for the person concerned and his or her family members from the point of view of EU law, including the principle of proportionality. Moreover, national law must allow for such a person to recover nationality ex tunc where appropriate.
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 23 Nov. 2010, C-145/09](#) *Tsakouridis* EU:C:2010:708
 * Art. 28(3) Citizens Dir. Subject: Loss of Rights
 Ref. from Verwaltungsgerichtshof Baden-Württemberg, Germany, 24 Apr. 2009
- * *Article 28(3)(a) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that, in order to determine whether a Union citizen has resided in the host Member State for the 10 years preceding the expulsion decision, which is the decisive criterion for granting enhanced protection under that provision, all the relevant factors must be taken into account in each individual case, in particular the duration of each period of absence from the host Member State, the cumulative duration and the frequency of those absences, and the reasons why the person concerned left the host Member State, reasons which may establish whether those absences involve the transfer to another State of the centre of the personal, family or occupational interests of the person concerned.*
Should the referring court conclude that the Union citizen concerned enjoys the protection of Article 28(3) of Directive 2004/38, that provision must be interpreted as meaning that the fight against crime in connection with dealing in narcotics as part of an organised group is capable of being covered by the concept of 'imperative grounds of public security' which may justify a measure expelling a Union citizen who has resided in the host Member State for the preceding 10 years. Should the referring court conclude that the Union citizen concerned enjoys the protection of Article 28(2) of Directive 2004/38, that provision must be interpreted as meaning that the fight against crime in connection with dealing in narcotics as part of an organised group is covered by the concept of 'serious grounds of public policy or public security'.

- ☞ [CJEU 10 Mar. 2022, C-247/20](#) *V.I. v Customs (UK)* EU:C:2022:177
AG 30 Sep 2021 EU:C:2021:778
- * Art. 7(1)+16 Citizens Dir. Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. 21 TFEU
Ref. from Appeals Service Northern Ireland, UK, 7 Apr. 2020
- * *Is a child EEA Permanent Resident required to maintain Comprehensive Sickness Insurance in order to maintain a right to reside, as s/he would as a self-sufficient person, pursuant to Reg. 4(1) of the 2016 Regulations? The CJEU ruled:*
(1) *Article 21 TFEU and Art. 16(1) Citizens Dir. must be interpreted as meaning that neither a child, a Union citizen, who has acquired a right of permanent residence, nor the parent who is the primary carer of that child is required to have comprehensive sickness insurance cover, within the meaning of Art. 7(1)(b) of that directive, in order to retain their right of residence in the host State.*
2. *Art. 21 TFEU and Art. 7(1)(b) Citizens Dir. must be interpreted as meaning that, as regards periods before a child, a Union citizen, has acquired a right of permanent residence in the host State, both that child, where a right of residence is claimed for him or her on the basis of that Art. 7(1)(b), and the parent who is the primary carer of that child must have comprehensive sickness insurance cover within the meaning of that directive.*
- ☞ [CJEU 14 Dec. 2021, C-490/20](#) *V.M.A. v Pancharevo (BU)* EU:C:2021:1008
AG 15 Apr 2021 EU:C:2021:296
- * Art. 18+20+21 TFEU Subject: Exit and Entry
Art. 24(2) Charter and Family Members
Ref. from Administrativen sad Sofia-grad, Bulgaria, 2 Oct. 2020
- * *Art. 4(2) TEU, Artt. 20 and 21 TFEU and Artt. 7, 24 and 45 of the Charter, read in conjunction with Art. 4(3) of Dir. 2004/38, must be interpreted as meaning that, in the case of a child, being a minor, who is a Union citizen and whose birth certificate, issued by the competent authorities of the host MS, designates as that child's parents two persons of the same sex, the MS of which that child is a national is obliged:*
(i) *to issue to that child an identity card or a passport without requiring a birth certificate to be drawn up beforehand by its national authorities, and*
(ii) *to recognise, as is any other MS, the document from the host MS that permits that child to exercise, with each of those two persons, the child's right to move and reside freely within the territory of the MSs.*
- ☞ [CJEU 4 June 2009, C-22/08](#) *Vatsouras & Koupatantze* EU:C:2009:344
Art. 24(2) Citizens Dir. Subject: Equal Treatment
Art. 18 TFEU
Ref. from Sozialgericht Nürnberg, Germany, 22 Jan. 2008
- * *With respect to the rights of nationals of Member States seeking employment in another Member State, examination of the first question has not disclosed any factor capable of affecting the validity of Article 24(2) of Directive 2004/38. Article 12 EC does not preclude national rules which exclude nationals of Member States of the European Union from receipt of social assistance benefits which are granted to nationals of non-member countries.*
- New ☞ [CJEU 12 Feb. 2026, C-48/24](#) *Vilniaus* EU:C:2026:83
AG 10 Jul 2025 EU:C:2025:660
- * Art. 49 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Lietuvos vyriausiasis, Lithuania, 25 Jan. 2024
- * *The CJEU ruled that the obligation imposed by Lithuanian law on a private international school to review whether its staff meet a requirement for proficiency in the Lithuanian language potentially fails to have regard to freedom of establishment.*
In relation to the requirements for providing proof which establishes that the language requirement has been met, the CJEU considers that the Lithuanian law, insofar as it requires the provision of a certificate issued by the National Education Agency on the basis of language tests organised in Lithuania, appears to go beyond what is necessary. The language requirement in question appears to apply as soon as the persons concerned begin their duties, irrespective of the duration of their employment contract, without any exceptions or flexibility in that regard. According to the CJEU, the national law therefore appears to be disproportionate in relation to the objective pursued.

- ☞ [CJEU 22 Feb. 2024, C-491/21](#) *W.A. v Dir. Persoanelor (RO)* EU:C:2024:184
AG 27 Apr 2023 EU:C:2023:362
- * Art. 21 TFEU Subject: Exit and Entry
Art. 4 Citizens Dir. and Equal Treatment
Ref. from Înalta Curte de Casație, Romania, 10 Aug. 2021
- * *In W.A. the CJEU held that the Romanian rules on the issuing of identity documents to own nationals are incompatible with Art. 4(3) Cit. Dir. read in conjunction with Art. 21 TFEU and Art. 45(1) EU Charter. According to Romanian law, an identity document that is also a travel document can only be issued to nationals who are resident in Romania as a place of residence in Romania is one of the details on the identity document. The CJEU found that this rule, that is capable of depriving Art. 4(3) Cit. Dir. of its full effect as Romanian citizens (in this case a Romanian citizen resident in France) could be dissuaded from using their right to move and reside as a citizen of the Union (Art. 21 TFEU) because they are effectively penalized for exercising this right. As no objective justification for this difference in treatment was given in the reference and the arguments presented by the Member State during the proceedings (proof of domicile and administrative burden) could not, according to the CJEU, justify the fact that mobile Romanian citizens effectively have one document, a passport, that they can use as travel document, whereas non-mobile Romanian citizens are also entitled to an identity document that they can use to exercise their right to move and reside, the CJEU found that Romania had breached its obligations under EU law, more specifically Art. 21 TFEU and Art. 45(1) EU Charter, read in combination with Art. 4(3) Directive 2004/38.*
- ☞ [CJEU 15 Mar. 2022, C-85/21](#) *W.Y. v Steiermark (AT)* EU:C:2022:192
- * Art. 21 TFEU Subject: Loss of Rights
Ref. from Landesverwaltungsgericht Steiermark, Austria, 3 Feb. 2021
- * *In W.Y. (C-85/21) the Court rejected as manifestly ill-founded an application concerning loss of EU citizenship. W.Y. acquired Austrian nationality in 1992 after having renounced his Turkish nationality. In 2018, an Austrian court confirmed that W.Y. had lost automatically Austrian nationality in 1994 upon reacquisition of Turkish nationality. W.Y. argued that the Austrian authorities upon deciding on his loss of Austrian nationality failed to perform a proportionality assessment in line with CJEU jurisprudence (i.e. *Tjebbes*, C-221/17) and that the loss of EU citizenship had important consequences for his private and professional life. The CJEU rejected the application as manifestly ill-founded since W.Y.'s loss of Austrian nationality occurred before that country's accession to the EU in 1995. Since W.Y. never had EU citizenship (similar to the reasoning in *Kaur* (C-192/99), Articles 20 and 21 TFEU are not applicable to his situation.*
- ☞ [CJEU 25 Nov. 2025, C-713/23](#) *Wojewoda Mazowiecki* EU:C:2025:917
AG 3 Apr 2025 EU:C:2025:235
- * Art. 20+21 TFEU Subject: Family Members
Ref. from Naczelny Sąd Administracyjny, Poland, 23 Nov. 2023
- * *The applicants are a same-sex couple who requested the Polish authorities to recognize and transcribe in the Polish civil register their marriage certificate issued by Germany. The authorities refused because Polish law does not provide for marriage between persons of the same sex and the transcription of such a foreign marriage certificate would violate national fundamental legal principles. Their main concern was that the transcription would allow to co-exist in the same legal order marriages between same-sex persons and marriages between persons of different sexes, while the former are not allowed by the Polish Constitution and national law. The applicants argued that being ruled by different civil statuses – as married persons in Germany and as unmarried persons in Poland – constitutes a disproportionate restriction on their freedom of movement since it discourages and even prevents them from exercising such freedom. They claim a violation of art. 20(2)(a) and 21(1) TFEU in light of art. 7 and 21(1) EU Charter. The Court upheld its previous case law according to which the effectiveness of the rights derived from art. 21(1) TFEU requires that EU citizens are able to pursue in the MS of nationality the family life which they have created or strengthened in a host MS. This creates an obligation for EU states to recognize the civil status of persons that was established lawfully in another MS. Such an obligation cannot be interpreted as undermining national identity or pose a threat to public policy since it does not impose an obligation to introduce such marriages. The refusal to recognize a marriage concluded in another MS and the refusal to transcribe the marriage certificate constitute obstacles to the exercise of rights under art. 21(1) TFEU, which must be justified under EU law and be consistent with rights guaranteed under the EU Charter. The CJEU invoked art. 8 ECHR, which constitutes the minimum threshold of protection under Article 7 EU Charter. It imposes a positive obligation to establish a legal framework providing for the legal recognition and protection of same sex-couples, which Poland has failed to comply with in its national law. The CJEU rules that Polish legislation is discriminatory on sexual orientation grounds because only heterosexual couples can benefit from the transcription of marriage certificates, which is the only effective means to have a foreign marriage recognized. Lastly, the CJEU instructs the national court that art. 20 and 21(1) TFEU and art. 7 and 21(1) EU Charter have direct effect, and it can disapply national law provisions if they cannot be reconciled with EU law.*

- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 6 Oct. 2009, C-123/08](#) **Wolzenburg** EU:C:2009:616
 * Art. 18 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
 Ref. from Rechtbank Amsterdam, Netherlands, 21 Mar. 2008
- * *A national of one Member State who is lawfully resident in another Member State is entitled to rely on the first paragraph of Article 12 EC against national legislation, such as the Law on the surrender of persons (Overleveringswet), of 29 April 2004, which lays down the conditions under which the competent judicial authority can refuse to execute a European arrest warrant issued with a view to the enforcement of a custodial sentence.*
Article 4(6) of Council Framework Decision 2002/584/JHA of 13 June 2002 on the European arrest warrant and the surrender procedures between Member States must be interpreted as meaning that, in the case of a citizen of the Union, the Member State of execution cannot, in addition to a condition as to the duration of residence in that State, make application of the ground for optional non-execution of a European arrest warrant laid down in that provision subject to supplementary administrative requirements, such as possession of a residence permit of indefinite duration.
Article 12 EC is to be interpreted as not precluding the legislation of a Member State of execution under which the competent judicial authority of that State is to refuse to execute a European arrest warrant issued against one of its nationals with a view to the enforcement of a custodial sentence, whilst such a refusal is, in the case of a national of another Member State having a right of residence on the basis of Article 18(1) EC, subject to the condition that that person has lawfully resided for a continuous period of five years in that Member State of execution.
- ☞ [CJEU 5 Sep. 2023, C-689/21](#) **X v ministeriet (DK)** EU:C:2023:626
 AG 26 Jan 2023 EU:C:2023:53
 * Art. 20 TFEU Subject: Loss of Rights
 Ref. from High Court, Denmark, 16 Nov. 2021
- * *The case concerns the compatibility of the Danish rules on the loss of citizenship with EU law. Danish nationals, born abroad and who have never lived in Denmark, lose their nationality by operation of law upon reaching the age of 22 on ground of lack of a genuine link with Denmark if no application to retain Danish nationality has been made before that date. The CJEU is asked to decide whether the Danish rules are consistent with Art. 20 TFEU (EU citizenship) read in conjunction with Art. 7 of the EU Charter (right to private and family life). AG Szpunar advises the CJEU to rule that Danish legislation is not compatible with EU law as it fails to provide for an individual examination, based on the principle of proportionality, of the consequences of the loss of nationality and of EU citizenship in light of EU law. AG Szpunar considers that following **Tjebbes a.o.** (C-221/17) all situations involving loss of nationality also entailing the loss of EU citizenship have to be examined in light of the principle of proportionality. The second ground of incompatibility concerns the lack of the possibility to recover ex tunc Danish nationality when the person applies for a travel document or any other document providing evidence of their nationality. According to the AG, the possibility to regain Danish nationality via the general naturalization procedure does not meet the requirements set out in the **Tjebbes a.o.** case.*
The Court, however, finds that this law is compatible with EU law, even if it entails the loss of EU citizenship, as long as there is a possibility to apply for retention or recovery of Danish nationality. In this procedure, the competent authorities have to assess the proportionality of the loss of nationality from an EU law perspective and ex tunc retention or recovery of nationality has to be possible. MSs have to allow a 'reasonable period of time' to make such an application. MSs have to inform the individual of the loss of nationality and the possibility to apply for retention or recovery of that nationality. The 'reasonable period of time' starts either when the age of 22 is reached but only after the individual has been informed of the options to retain or recover nationality. Failing that, MSs have to, as an ancillary issue, make an individual assessment when an application for a travel or any other document showing the nationality of the individual is made.
- ☞ [CJEU 2 Sep. 2021, C-930/19](#) **X. v Belgium (BE)** EU:C:2021:657
 AG 22 Mar 2021 EU:C:2021:225
 * all Art. Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
 Ref. from Conseil du Contentieux des Étrangers, Belgium, 20 Dec. 2019
- * *The CJEU is asked whether there is an infringement of Art. 20 and 21 Charter by Art. 13(2) Dir. 2004/38. This provision provides that a Union citizen's family member who is not a national of a MS retains a right of residence after divorce, annulment of marriage or termination of a registered partnership if, inter alia, this is warranted by particularly difficult circumstances, such as having been a victim of domestic violence while the marriage or registered partnership was subsisting, if the persons concerned provide evidence that they themselves qualify for a right of residence as set out in sections a-d of Art. 7(1) Dir., if this is not required by Art. 15(3) of Dir. 2003/86 (Family Reunification) for family members of third-country nationals?*
The CJEU held that the consideration of this question did not disclose any reasons that affect the validity of Art. 13(2) Dir. 2004/38 in the light of Art. 20 Charter

- ☞ [CJEU 22 June 2023, C-459/20](#) **X. v Stscr. (NL)** EU:C:2023:499
AG 16 Jun 2022 EU:C:2022:475
- * Art. 20 TFEU Subject: Family Members
Ref. from Rechtbank Den Haag (zp Utrecht), Netherlands, 10 Sep. 2020 and Residence
- * *In this case the CJEU is asked to develop its rulings in the **Ruiz Zambrano** and **Chavez-Vilchez** cases. The case concerns a minor Dutch citizen who was born in Thailand, the State of which his mother is a national, and where it has lived ever since. Initially, the child was cared for by his maternal grandmother. After her divorce, his Thai mother returns to Thailand and assumes the role of his sole carer. At the time of the reference, there is no contact between the Dutch father and the child, and the mother has sole parental responsibility over him according to a Thai court ruling. AG De La Tour concludes that Art. 20 TFEU is not precluding legislation of a MS under which it refuses to grant a secondary right of residence in the territory of that State to a third country national who is the parent of a minor child who is a national of that State where that child has never resided in the territory of the Union, has his habitual residence outside that territory and does not intend to exercise the rights attaching to his status as a citizen of the Union by applying to enter and reside in that State together with that parent, on whom he would be dependent. Art. 20 TFEU also states that when that parent submits an application for the grant of a derived right of residence in the MS of which the child is a national and to which the child intends to go in order to reside, the competent authority of that MS must establish, in accordance with Art. 24 of the Charter, that the transfer of the child is in the child's best interests. In order to make that determination, it is necessary to consider, in the light of all the circumstances of the case, the extent to which that transfer is likely to affect the physical and mental well-being of the child, his material situation and his affective, family and social ties. That determination must also be based on evidence showing that the transfer of the child is real and that the child's stay in the MS concerned is not temporary or accidental and is not for the sole purpose of providing one of the parents with a derived right of residence under Art. 20 TFEU. For the purposes of assessing whether there is a dependency relationship capable of giving rise to a derived right of residence under Article 20 TFEU, a decisive factor is the moment when the parent who is a third-country national has assumed the daily care of his child, a citizen of the Union. It is for the competent national authority to determine, on the basis of all the concrete circumstances of the case, the extent to which that parent has custody of the child or bears the legal, financial or affective burden for the child at the time when its application is decided, and to satisfy itself that that custody is exercised or that that burden is borne in the context of a real and stable family life. On the other hand, the fact that the other parent, a citizen of the Union, and another relative who is a third-country national have in the past exercised custody of the child or borne the legal, financial or affectionate burden for the child, or are in a position to do so not be inferred that there is not such a relationship of dependency between the parent who is a third-country national and that child that the child would be prevented from exercising his right to travel and reside in the territory of the Member State of which he is a national if the parent who is a third-country national had been refused a right of residence in the Member State concerned.*
- ☞ [CJEU 29 Oct. 2021, C-206/21](#) **X. v Prefet (FR)** EU:C:2021:920
Art. 7(1)(b)+8(4) Citizens Dir. Subject: Loss of Rights
Ref. from Tribunal administratif de Dijon, France, 11 Mar. 2021
* *Withdrawn.*
- ☞ [CJEU 5 May 2022, C-451/19](#) **X.U. & Q.P. v Toledo (ES)** EU:C:2022:354
AG 13 Jan 2022 EU:C:2022:24
- * Art. 20 TFEU Subject: Residence
Ref. from Tribunal Superior, Castilla-La Mancha, Spain, 29 Apr. 2019 and Family Members
joined cases: C-451/19+C-532/19
- * *1. Art. 20 TFEU must be interpreted as precluding a MS from refusing an application for family reunification made for the benefit of a TCN who is family member of a Union citizen, the latter being a national of that MS and who has never exercised his or her right of freedom of movement, on the sole ground that that Union citizen does not have, for himself or herself and for that family member, sufficient resources so as not to become a burden on the national social assistance system, without there having been an examination of whether there exists, between that Union citizen and that member of his or her family, a relationship of dependency of such a nature that, in the event of a refusal to grant a derived right of residence to that family member, that Union citizen would be forced to leave the territory of the EU as a whole and would thereby be deprived of the genuine enjoyment of the substance of the rights conferred by his or her status as a Union citizen.
2. Art. 20 TFEU must be interpreted as meaning, first, that a relationship of dependency capable of justifying the grant of a derived right of residence under that article does not exist on the sole ground that a national of a MS who is an adult and has never exercised his or her right of freedom of movement, and his or her spouse, who is an adult and a third-country national, are required to live together under the obligations arising from marriage according to the law of the MS of which the Union citizen is a national and in which the marriage was entered into and, second, that, where the Union citizen is a minor, the assessment of the existence of a relationship of dependency capable of justifying the grant of a derived right of residence under that article to that child's parent, who is a third-country national, must be based on the taking into account, in the child's best interests, of all of the circumstances of the case. Where that parent lives on a stable basis with the other parent, who is a Union citizen, of that minor, there is a rebuttable presumption of such a relationship of dependency.
3. Art. 20 TFEU must be interpreted as meaning that a relationship of dependency capable of justifying the grant of a derived right of residence under that article to a minor child, who is a third-country national, of the spouse, who himself or herself is a third-country national, of a Union citizen who has never exercised his or her right of freedom of movement exists where the marriage between that Union citizen and his or her spouse produces a child who is a Union citizen and who has never exercised his or her right of freedom of movement, and where that child would be forced to leave the territory of the EU as a whole if the minor child who is a third-country national were forced to leave the territory of the MS concerned.*

- ☞ [CJEU 10 Apr. 2025, C-607/21](#) **X.X.X. v State (BE)** EU:C:2025:264
AG 19 Sep 2024 EU:C:2024:770
- * Art. 2(2)(d) Citizens Dir. Subject: Exit and Entry
Ref. from Conseil d'État, Belgium, 30 Sep. 2021 and Family Members
- * *According to the CJEU a third-country national who is the parent of a Union citizen enjoys a derived right of residence for more than three months in the host Member State if s/he proves, first, that s/he was dependent on that citizen in the country of origin on the date on which s/he left that country and, second, that s/he is dependent on that citizen on the date on which the application for a residence card was submitted, if several years have elapsed between those two dates.*
- ☞ [CJEU 8 May 2013, C-87/12](#) **Ymeraga** EU:C:2013:291
- * Art. 3(1) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Art. 20 TFEU and Family Members
Ref. from Cour administrative, Luxembourg, 20 Feb. 2012
- * *Article 20 TFEU must be interpreted as not precluding a Member State from refusing to allow a third-country national to reside in its territory, where that third-country national wishes to reside with a family member who is a European Union citizen residing in the Member State of which he holds the nationality and has never exercised his right of freedom of movement as a Union citizen, provided such refusal does not lead, for the Union citizen concerned, to the denial of the genuine enjoyment of the substance of the rights conferred by virtue of his status as a Union citizen.*
- ☞ [CJEU 10 Mar. 2023, C-248/22](#) **Z.K. & M.S.** EU:C:2023:260
- * Art. 2(2)+3(2) Citizens Dir. Subject: Family Members
Art. 3 TFEU
Ref. from High Court, Ireland, 8 Apr. 2022
- * *The Irish High Court has withdrawn its request for a preliminary ruling.*
- ☞ [CJEU 19 Nov. 2020, C-454/19](#) **Z.W. v Heilbronn (DE)** EU:C:2020:947
AG 4 Jun 2020 EU:C:2020:430
- * Art. 21 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Amtsgericht Heilbronn, Germany, 14 June 2019
- * *This case concerns a Romanian national who has been resident in Germany with her child (also a Romanian national) who was placed under curatorship by the German authorities since 2009. In 2017, the mother agreed for the child's father to take him to Romania where they both reside, which resulted in her criminal prosecution for international kidnapping. The CJEU ruled that the provisions of German criminal law that stipulate tougher penalties for international kidnapping as opposed to national kidnapping contravene Art. 21 TFEU. According to the Court the German rules amount to a difference in treatment that affects or limits the exercise of the right to freedom of movement since EU citizens are more likely than German nationals to be prosecuted for international kidnapping, especially upon return to their State of origin. The Court ruled that this difference in treatment was not justified as it is not proportional, i.e goes beyond what is necessary to protect the legitimate interest protected by the rules. More specifically, the Court found that the reasons put forward by the German authorities as to the difficulties of enforcing judicial decisions concerning abducted children in other States contradicted Council Reg. 2201/2003 that establishes the principle of the recognition and enforcement of judgments in matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility.*
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 4 June 2013, C-300/11](#) **Z.Z.** EU:C:2013:363
- * Art. 30(2)+31 Citizens Dir. Subject: Loss of Rights
Ref. from Court of Appeal (England & Wales) (Civil Division), UK, 17 June 2011 and Procedural Rights
- * *Articles 30(2) and 31 of Directive 2004/38 read in the light of Article 47 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, must be interpreted as requiring the national court with jurisdiction to ensure that failure by the competent national authority to disclose to the person concerned, precisely and in full, the grounds on which a decision taken under Article 27 of that directive is based and to disclose the related evidence to him is limited to that which is strictly necessary, and that he is informed, in any event, of the essence of those grounds in a manner which takes due account of the necessary confidentiality of the evidence.*
- ☞ [CJEU \(GC\) 21 Dec. 2011, C-424/10](#) **Ziolkowski & Szeja** EU:C:2011:866
- * Art. 16 Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Ref. from Bundesverwaltungsgericht, Germany, 31 Aug. 2010
- * *Article 16(1) of Directive 2004/38 must be interpreted as meaning that a Union citizen who has been resident for more than five years in the territory of the host Member State on the sole basis of the national law of that Member State cannot be regarded as having acquired the right of permanent residence under that provision if, during that period of residence, he did not satisfy the conditions laid down in Article 7(1) of the directive.
Periods of residence completed by a national of a non-Member State in the territory of a Member State before the accession of the non-Member State to the European Union must, in the absence of specific provisions in the Act of Accession, be taken into account for the purpose of the acquisition of the right of permanent residence under Article 16 (1) of Directive 2004/38, provided those periods were completed in compliance with the conditions laid down in Article 7 (1) of the directive.*

7.2 CJEU pending cases

- ☞ [CJEU C-560/24](#) **Besthame** EU:C:2026:11
 AG 15 Jan 2026
 * Art. 35 Citizens Dir. Subject: Loss of Rights
 Ref. from Court of Appeal, Ireland, 2 July 2024
 * *In this case the Irish Court of Appeal seeks clarification whether Dir. 2004/38, more specifically Art. 35 of that directive, applies in cases where fraud or abuse of rights, in this case a marriage of convenience that was the reason why a TCN was granted permission to reside in a MS as a family member of an Union citizen, is established when that TCN no longer resides in that MS as a family member and has since acquired the nationality of that MS. AG Norkus concludes, following a literal, contextual and teleological analysis of Art. 35, that in situations where a TCN no longer qualifies as a 'beneficiary' within the meaning of Art. 3(1), MSs remain competent to take appropriate measures if they establish fraud or abuse of rights even though the person concerned no longer depends on Dir. 2004/38 for their right to remain in that MS.*
- New ☞ [CJEU C-628/25](#) **Crossryn** Subject: Family Members
 * Art. 10(1)+17(2) WA
 Art. 2(2) Citizens Dir.
 Ref. from Tribunale Civile di Roma, Italy, 8 Dec. 2025
 * *This case concerns the interpretation of the right to remain as a family member of a Union Citizen in Arts. 10(1)(e)(ii) read in conjunction with 17(2) Withdrawal Agreement. In this case the family member concerned is a family member in the ascending line who qualified as dependent family member within the meaning of Art. 2(2)(d) Dir. 2004/38 at the end of the transition period, but did not reside in the host State at that time. If the CJEU finds that under these circumstances a family member falls within the scope of Art. 10(1)(e)(ii) Withdrawal Agreement, then the referring court also seeks clarification whether that family member continues to enjoy a right of residence under Art. 13 in Title II of Part 2 of the Withdrawal Agreement and can therefore rely on Art. 23 of that Agreement if that family member leaves the home of the person from whom they derive their right to reside in the host State to escape domestic abuse and, therefore, ceases to qualify as a dependent family member.*
- ☞ [CJEU C-131/25](#) **Dris** Subject: Residence and Equal Treatment
 * Art. 18+20+21 TFEU
 Art. 14 Charter
 Ref. from Conseil d'État, Belgium, 10 Feb. 2025
 * *The CJEU is asked to answer the question whether Article 18 and Article 21(1) TFEU, read in isolation or in conjunction with Article 165(1) and (2) TFEU and with Article 14 (1) Charter precludes a system of quotas for "non-resident" students, used in the French community of Belgium, regulating the number of students for access to university medical studies with the aim of maintaining a high-quality medical service and guaranteeing the objectives of quality supervision during training and the protection of public health based on the high proportion of non-resident students who leave the territory at the conclusion of their full medical training.*
- New ☞ [CJEU C-653/25](#) **E.M.** Subject: Family Members
 * Art. 20 TFEU
 Art. 47 Charter
 Ref. from Tribunalul București, Romania, 6 Aug. 2025
 * *In this case the referring Romanian court has asked the CJEU whether national legislation that allows national authorities to take between five months and up to two years to assess an application to recover nationality of that MS and, in its slip stream Union citizenship and the rights attached to the latter status, is compatible with Art. 20 TFEU and Art. 9 TEU and the right to an effective remedy in Art. 47 EU Charter.*
- ☞ [CJEU C-892/24](#) **Eur. Com. v UK** Subject: Family Members
 * all Art. WA
 Ref. from European Commission, , 20 Dec. 2024
 * *The Commission maintains that national rules which governed the conditions of entry and residence of mobile EU citizens, that were in force in the United Kingdom up to and during the transition period established by the (Brexit) Agreement on the withdrawal of the UK from the EU, have had – and may continue to have – a negative impact on the rights of EU citizens and their family members.*

New

- ☞ [CJEU C-4/26](#) **Hicinz** Subject: Equal Treatment
- * Art. 20 TFEU
Art. 2+4+7+24 Charter
Ref. from Tribunal de Bruxelles, Belgium, 9 Jan. 2026
- * *This case concerns the evacuation of refugees in the Gaza Strip according to the evacuation process negotiated by the Belgium State with Israel and Jordan. The applicants, who all still live in the Gaza Strip, have applied for and three have been issued 'humanitarian visa' by the Belgium authorities that enable them to leave the Gaza Strip. The question referred to the CJEU concerns the nature of the humanitarian visa that the Belgium authorities have issued to three applicants and the obligations that arise for the Belgium State. According to the applicants, Art. 20 TFEU, as interpreted by the CJEU in the Ruiz Zambrano case law and read in conjunction with Arts. 2, 4, 7 and 24 EU Charter, imposes an obligation on the Belgium State to evacuate them from the Gaza Strip, or, in the alternative, to inform the Israeli and Jordanian authorities of their desire to leave the Gaza Strip and go to Belgium. The first question requires the CJEU to state whether Art. 20 TFEU can be invoked successfully by a third-country national who has been issued a visa in the context of family reunion that allows them to join the parents and minor brother of an EU citizen. Questions 2-4 seek clarification as to the scope of protection enjoyed under Art. 20 TFEU and the aforementioned Charter provisions if the CJEU finds that Art. 20 TFEU applies to the situation of a third-country national who has been issued a visa by a Member State. The fifth question sees to the distinction made by the Belgium authorities in their evacuation process to prioritise nuclear family members (i.e. spouses and minor children of Union citizens) over other family members. The referring court wants to know whether this distinction is permitted under Art. 20 TFEU read in conjunction with Arts. 20-21 EU Charter if the lives of all of the Union citizen's family members are at danger as long as they remain in the third country. A request to deal with the case according to the CJEU's urgent preliminary ruling (Art. 107 CJEU's Rules of Procedure) has been made.*
- ☞ [CJEU C-279/25](#) **Land Badem-Württemberg** Subject: Residence
- * Art. 21(1) TFEU
Ref. from Bundesverwaltungsgericht, Germany, 27 Feb. 2025
- * *The referring German court seeks clarification whether Art. 21(1) TFEU applies to a third-country national, the former spouse of an EU citizen if the EU citizens is a national of two Member States. In this case, the EU citizen has resided in both Member States of which she holds the nationality, and the right of residence is applied for in the Member State where she moved to after having resided for twelve years in the first Member State.*
- ☞ [CJEU C-460/25](#) **Makran** Subject: Loss of Rights
- * Art. 16+35 Citizens Dir.
Ref. from Supreme Court, Ireland, 8 July 2025
- * *The case concerns the revocation of a decision to grant permanent residence permission (art. 16 Dir. 2004/38/EC). The decision to grant permanent residence permission, as became apparent in review proceedings, was issued on the basis of materially misleading and fraudulent documentation that was provided by the applicant and was decisive for the outcome of the decision. The referring Irish court has asked the Court of Justice whether this is sufficient to revoke the decision or whether art. 35 Dir. 2004/38/EC requires national authorities to conduct an individualized proportionality assessment in which the potential impact of the revocation of the right to permanent residence is assessed. On 8/9/2025, by order, the CJEU dismissed the request of the referring court to determine the case by expedited procedure.*
- ☞ [CJEU C-520/25](#) **Min. Inclusion** Subject: Equal Treatment
- * Art. 21(1) TFEU
Ref. from Tribunal Superior, Madrid, Spain, 31 July 2025
- * *Non-discrimination and citizenship of the Union.*
- ☞ [CJEU C-767/23](#) **Remling** EU:C:2025:486
AG 26 Jun 2025 Subject: Procedural Rights
- * Art. 20 TFEU
Ref. from Raad van State, Netherlands, 13 Dec. 2023
- * *n Remling (C-767/23) the AG advises the CJEU to rule that a national rule that allows national courts of last instance to provide a summary reasoning why they have not referred a case to the CJEU is not incompatible with EU law if the summary reasoning allows the parties to understand why the court has chosen not to refer. National law, according to the AG, cannot make summary reasoning mandatory and the court of last instance must be able to assess whether summary reasoning is sufficient in a given case. The AG clarifies that a standard formula could suffice if the decision of the lower court adequately explains why EU law is irrelevant for resolving the case at hand, how EU law has been clarified in the Court's case-law, or why, in the absence of such case-law, the correct application of EU law does not raise any reasonable doubt. If, however, the national court of last instance agrees with the outcome of the case but not with the reasoning of the lower court, or if that court did not provide any reasoning which could point to the possible reasons not to refer, then the last-instance court cannot rely on a standard formula but must expressly explain why no reference is mad. There is no obligation to mention which of the CILFIT criteria applies if this can be deduced from the reasoning. However, merely stating the applicable criterion is insufficient as this does not allow the parties to understand why that criterion was deemed applicable.*

- ☞ [CJEU C-147/24](#) **Safi** EU:C:2025:650
AG 4 Sep 2025
* Art. 20 TFEU Subject: Residence
Ref. from Rechtbank Den Haag (zp Roermond), Netherlands, 26 Feb. 2024 and Family Members
- * *This case concerns a minor Dutch child with a Dutch father (who also holds a non-EU nationality) and a TCN mother who is the daily carer of the child and holds a valid residence permit in Spain. The Dutch authorities refused to issue the mother a residence permit based on Article 20 TFEU on ground that the family can move to Spain; as per the Zambrano jurisprudence the child would not be forced to leave the territory of the EU as a whole. Furthermore, they issued a return order to Spain under Directive 2008/115.
Firstly, AG Capeta proposes that the Court of Justice recognises a right not to move for minor EU citizens with TCN family members where the failure to award a derived right of residence to the TCN parent based on Article 20 TFEU exposes the child to the risk of being forced to leave only the Member State of residence but not the Union as a whole. The proposed interpretation would render irrelevant where the minor EU citizen would be forced to move if the parent is not awarded a right to reside. Should the Court decide against this interpretation, the AG proposes that the competent authority should verify if relocation of an entire family is possible under EU law.
The second issue concerns the role of the child's best interests in deciding whether to grant a derived right of residence. The AG proposes that the decision-making authority must take into account the best interest of the child and the right to family life when assessing the degree of dependency between the minor child and the parent and before adopting a decision under Article 6(2) of the Return Dir. 2008/115.*
- ☞ [CJEU C-449/25](#) **Serviciul Pentru**
* Art. 21(1) TFEU Subject: Residence
Ref. from Curtea de Apel Oradea, Romania, 27 June 2025 and Equal Treatment
- * *The CJEU is asked whether the third-country national partner with whom the EU citizen has entered into a same-sex partnership derives a right of residence from Art. 21(1) TFEU in the MS of which the EU citizen is a national if that MS does not recognise same-sex marriages and the same-sex partnership was entered into in the MS where the EU citizen exercised free movement rights.*
- ☞ [CJEU C-906/24](#) **Sirto**
* Art. 18+20+21 TFEU Subject: Equal Treatment
Ref. from Korkein hallinto-oikeus, Finland, 31 Dec. 2024 and Loss of Rights
- * *The Finnish court seeks clarification whether the children of an EU citizen who are in primary education and their parent who has actual custody over them derive a right to remain from either Art. 12(3) Dir. 2004/38 or Art. 10 Reg. 492/2011 if the host MS's authorities have withdrawn the right to remain of their EU citizen parent for reasons related to public policy, but have not yet executed that order.
Both provisions ensure children, who are enrolled at an educational establishment and their parent who has actual custody over those children, with a right to reside in the host MS until the children have completed their education if their EU citizen parent from whom they initially derived their right to remain in the host MS no longer resides in that MS.
If the Court finds that, given the circumstances, the aforementioned family members do enjoy a right to remain in their host MS under either or both of the aforementioned provisions, then the referring court has asked the Court to clarify whether the national authorities have to reassess their decision to withdraw the right to remain of the EU citizen parent in light of the fact that the family members can remain in the host Member State. If this is the case, then it seeks clarification how it should balance the interests listed in Art. 28(1) Dir. 2004/38, in particular 'family and economic situation', read in combination with Art. 7 + 24(2)-(3) Charter.*

7.3 EFTA Advisory Opinions

- ☞ [EFTA 26 July 2011, E-4/11](#) **Clauder v Government (LI)**
* Art. 16(1)+7(1) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Ref. from Verwaltungsgerichtshof, Liechtenstein, 16 Feb. 2011
- * *Art. 16(1) 2004/38 is to be interpreted such that an EEA national with a right of permanent residence, who is a pensioner and in receipt of social welfare benefits in the host EEA State, may claim the right to family reunification even if the family member will also be claiming social welfare benefits.*
- ☞ [EFTA 26 July 2016, E-28/15](#) **Jabbi v Imm. Appeals Board (NO)**
* Art. 7(1)(b)+7(2) Citizens Dir. Subject: Residence
Ref. from Oslo Tingrett, Norway, 8 Nov. 2015
- * *Where an EEA national, pursuant to Article 7(1)(b) and Article 7(2) of Directive 2004/38/EC, has created or strengthened a family life with a third country national during genuine residence in an EEA State other than that of which he is a national, the provisions of that directive will apply by analogy where that EEA national returns with the family member to his home State.*

- ☞ [EFTA 9 Feb. 2021, E-1/20](#) ***Kerim v Government (NO)*** Subject: Loss of Rights
- * Art. 35 Citizens Dir. Ref. from Norges Høyesterett, Norway, 3 Mar. 2020
- * *In order to determine whether a marriage of convenience for the purposes of Art. 35 Dir. 2004/38 exists, in circumstances in which reasonable doubts exist as to whether the marriage in question is in fact genuine, it is necessary for the national authorities to establish, on the basis of a case-by-case examination, that at least one spouse in the marriage has essentially entered into it for the purpose of improperly obtaining the right of free movement and residence by a third-country national spouse rather than for the establishment of a genuine marriage. For the determination of whether a marriage of convenience for the purposes of Art. 35 Dir. 2004/38 exists, in circumstances in which reasonable doubts exist as to whether the marriage in question is in fact genuine, facts must be established and assessed in their entirety, which includes taking into account the subjective intention of an EEA national for entering into a marriage with a third-country national.*