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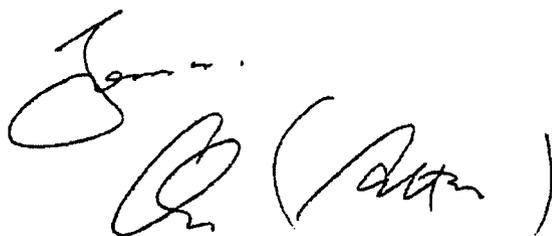


Thank you for your letter dated 25 November concerning the situation of EU nationals in Switzerland. I have read your letter and annexed documentation with great interest and we assure you that the Commission is well aware of the living and working conditions for foreigners in Switzerland.

That is why we have negotiated and signed a far-reaching agreement on the free movement of persons with Switzerland, which will considerably improve the situation in the future. In fact, the agreement foresees that upon entry into force, equivalent rules to those applicable in the Union will be applied by Switzerland. Subject to the pertaining transitional periods, access to the Swiss labour market will be liberalised in accordance with the same rules applicable in the EU among Member States. Thus, practically the whole *acquis communautaire* in the area of free movement of persons will also be applicable in Switzerland.

This Agreement should normally enter into force sometime in 2001, after completion of the ratification procedures by Switzerland, the Community and the Member States. In the coming months, the text of the Agreement will be transmitted by the Council to the European Parliament, for approval.

The Commission will monitor the implementation of the Agreement very closely. Should there be any shortcomings or problems, then these will be brought to the attention of the Joint Committee to be set up under the Agreement. The monitoring and information activities, which you propose, will indeed be undertaken in this framework.



Mr. Michael Cashman, MEP
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27th January 2004

Mr K Parlavantzas
Zurcherstrasse 117
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Dear Mr Parlavantzas

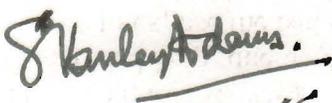
I was happy to attend the meeting of the "Committee on Petitions of the European Parliament" with you last week, on 22nd January 2004. I regret very much that I was not allowed to be of any help. I was even more surprised that your Co-Petitioner, Professor Ellen Stubbe, was not even called to speak. Now I should like to offer the following observations, in the hope that, if you manage to have Petition 667/2002 reopened, you will appear better equipped.

- 1) Your case was poorly prepared. This, I assume, is because you had no legal guidance and help, due to your unfortunate lack of funds. But, considering that you are trying to expose the bad treatment of some 1.5 million *E U citizens* working in Switzerland, I consider that the E U Commission and Parliament should have helped you with Legal Aid. Indeed there is a "Legal Affairs Committee" in the E U Parliament, made up of MEPs from all political groups, *mostly lawyers* with experience in International Law. All of these, like all E U Commissioners and officials, are paid by all of us tax-payers, citizens of member countries of the E U.
- 2) The MEP who chaired the Committee meeting on 22nd January 2004 (I believe Mr Roy Perry MEP) clearly has absolutely no experience of National Law, let alone International Law. In addition to this serious discrepancy, he was very off-hand, almost arrogant. This, in spite of the fact that there were several assistants helping him. He did not give you a fair hearing. You must make sure that, if and when you reappear before such a committee, you have a lawyer present, who must have International Law expertise (including Swiss Law), as well as full knowledge of Human Rights.

Do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further help.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely



Dr S G Adams