



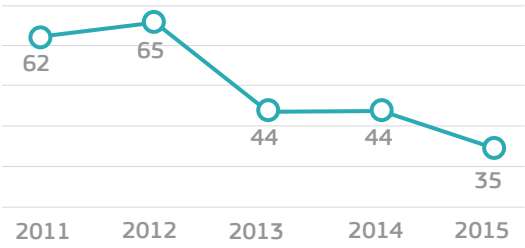
European Commission

Monitoring the Application of European Union Law

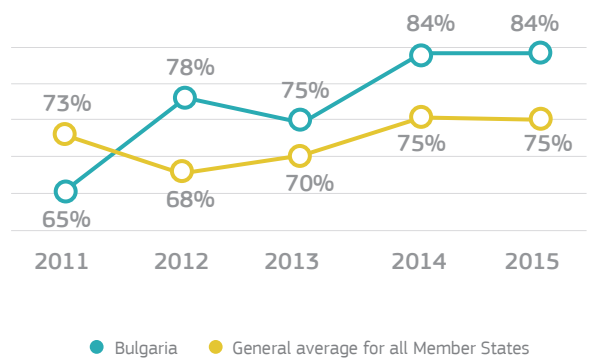
Annual Report 2015

New complaints against Bulgaria jumped in 2015 after holding steady for three years. However, fewer new EU Pilot files were opened than in the previous four years. The number of open infringement cases also fell sharply to the lowest level since 2011. In addition, significantly fewer new infringement cases for late transposition were launched than in 2014.

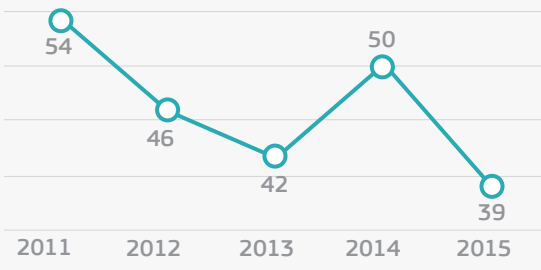
New EU Pilot files opened



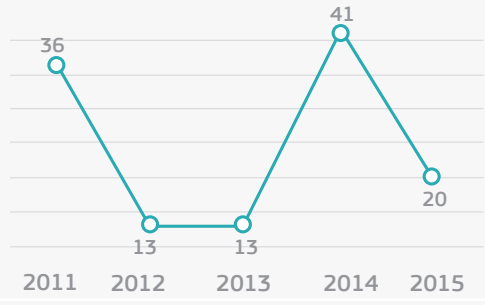
EU Pilot files: evolution of the resolution rate



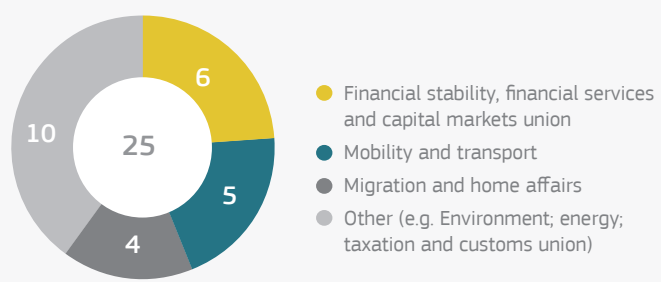
INFRINGEMENT CASES
Infringement cases open on 31 December



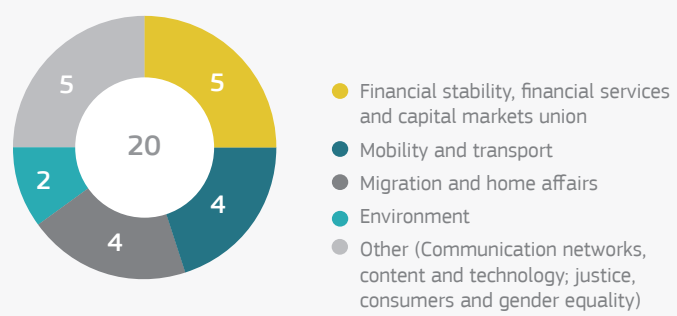
TRANSPPOSITION OF DIRECTIVES
New late transposition infringement cases



25 new infringement cases opened in 2015: main policy areas



20 new late transposition infringement cases opened in 2015: main policy areas





The Court ruled that:

- the procedure followed by Bulgaria in assigning rights of use for digital terrestrial ('DTT') frequencies was based on disproportionately restrictive award conditions. These led to the exclusion of potential candidates and hampered competition;¹
- Bulgaria has failed to comply with the Landfill Directive. It has not adopted the measures needed to ensure that its landfills for non-hazardous waste do not continue to function unless they satisfy the requirements of the Directive.²

In preliminary rulings, the Court ruled that:

- the principle of equal treatment applies not only to people of a certain ethnic origin but also to those who suffer, together with the former, less favourable treatment or a particular disadvantage on account of a discriminatory measure. The case concerned the installation of electricity meters at a height of 6 metres in a district densely populated by Roma people. The meters are installed in other districts at normal

height. According to the electricity company the installation of meters at 6 metres height was justified by their being increasingly tampered with and damaged, and by the numerous unlawful connections to the network in the district concerned. The Court observed that the company's practice seemed disproportionate to the aims of ensuring the security of the electricity network and the due recording of electricity consumption, and to the legitimate interests of the residents of the district concerned.³

¹ Commission v Bulgaria, [C-376/13](#).

² Directive [No 1999/31/EC](#), Commission v Bulgaria, [C-145/14](#).

³ CHEZ Razpredelenie Bulgaria, [C-83/14](#).