



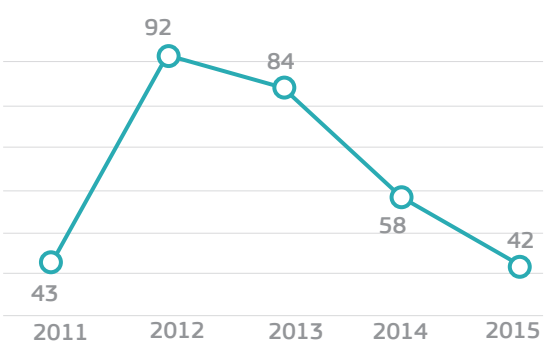
European Commission

Monitoring the Application of European Union Law

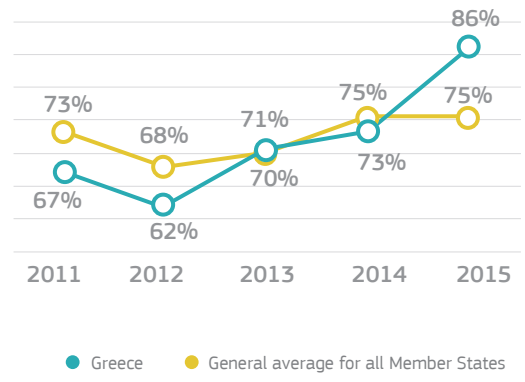
Annual Report 2015

In 2015, new complaints and new EU Pilot files opened against Greece both declined to the lowest level of the last five years. The number of open infringement cases has remained relatively stable since 2012. After the increase registered in 2014, new infringement cases for late transposition dropped slightly in 2015.

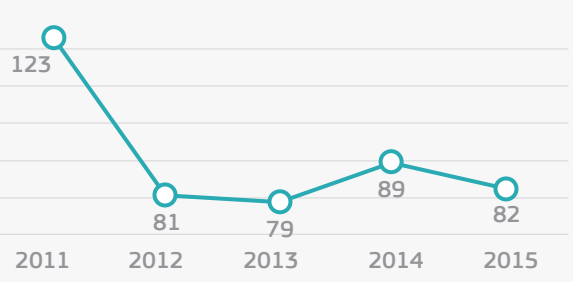
New EU Pilot files opened



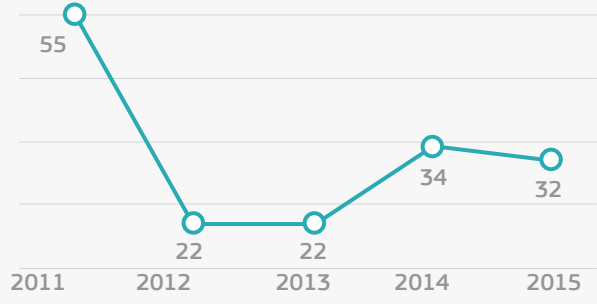
EU Pilot files: evolution of the resolution rate



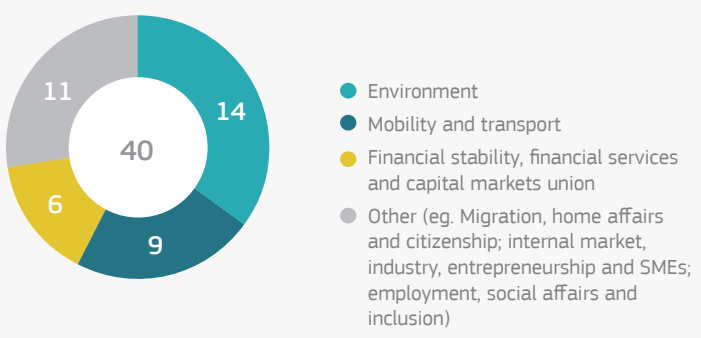
INFRINGEMENT CASES
Infringement cases open on 31 December



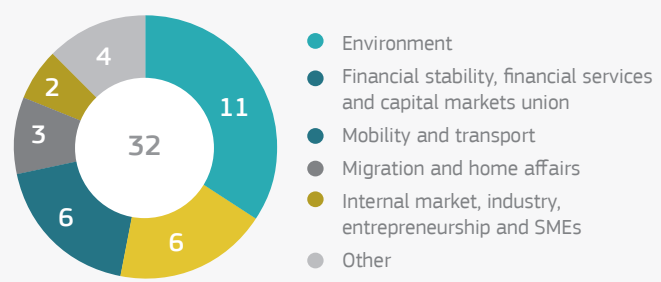
TRANSPOSITION OF DIRECTIVES
New late transposition infringement cases



40 new infringement cases opened in 2015: main policy areas



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





The Court ruled that:

- failed to comply with the Working Time Directive by making it possible for the working week of doctors to exceed the 48-hour limit, without properly taking into account their on-call hours. The possibility of postponing doctors' 24-hour rest period until a week after their on-call period also failed to comply with the Directive;¹
- has failed to ensure full compliance with the 2007 judgment of the Court of Justice finding that Greece was not ensuring adequate collection and treatment of urban waste water in a number of agglomerations. The Court ordered Greece to pay a lump sum of € 10 million and a sliding-scale penalty payment of € 20 000 per day, corresponding to € 3.64 million per half-year of delay;²
- has failed to fulfil its obligations under the Nitrates Directive by not designating enough zones vulnerable to nitrate pollution and not establishing action programmes to address them.³

In preliminary rulings, the Court ruled that:

- only people who have previously produced agricultural products could benefit under the long-term set-aside scheme for agricultural land;⁴
- parental leave is an individual right which cannot depend on the employment status of the spouse. National legislation which prohibits a male civil servant from taking parental leave when his wife does not work is, therefore, not compatible with EU law.⁵

¹ Commission v Greece, [C-180/14](#) and Court press release [No 152/15](#).

² Directive [No 91/271/EEC](#), Commission v Greece, [C-167/14](#) and Court press release [No 126/15](#).

³ Directive [No 91/676/EEC](#), Commission v Greece, [C-149/14](#).

⁴ *Agrooikosystemata*, [C-498/13](#).

⁵ *Maïstrellis*, [C-222/14](#) and Court press release [No 89/15](#).