



## CITIZENSHIP

Citizenship is a "plural" notion, it can be analysed at different levels but Europe is also a word with many contents.

### The many levels of analysis of "Citizenship":

Citizenship can be:

- National
- European
- Worldwide

And these levels influence each other especially the national and European citizenship for the nationals of the Member states of the European Union.

**Global or international citizenship** refers to another debate: it is a concept rather based on solidarity, a philosophical approach and a certain criticism of the capitalist economy. Global citizenship is rather non-institutional, non-governmental and refers to human beings above all.

**National citizenship** ties the individual to a country and implies the exercise of civic rights such as voting and participation in public life, but also duties. These rights and duties are often contained in the country's Constitution and laws.

Nationality refers to the fact of being personally governed by a national civil law, i.e. a common law that governs relations between citizens, such as name, majority, marriage, divorce, inheritance, property. But certain rights are granted to nationals of other countries...

**Nationality and citizenship** are linked at the national level through the regime of rights established in national law.

**European citizenship** is automatically granted to any citizen who is a national of an EU Member State, i.e. not to non-EU citizens. European citizenship is here a matter of rights and duties but is also based on the law!

European citizenship is recognised in European law and more specifically in two articles of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU): Article 9 and Article 20.

Through the application of these two articles, new rights have emerged for the direct benefit of European citizens. Citizens thus have a role to play directly in the construction of Europe. These new rights complement national citizenship, not replace it: it is a citizenship of SUPERPOSITION.



### **What rights?**

The right to move and reside, work and study in the territory of another Member State, the right to vote and stand as a candidate in local and European elections, the right of petition and citizens' initiative, consular protection by the diplomatic authorities of another Member State, the right to have recourse to the European Ombudsman ...

This citizenship exists and is guaranteed by the European institutions, but it is clear that we are not sufficiently aware of it