

**Question for written answer E-001316/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Nessa Childers (S&D)

Subject: Health and safety at work and mental health

While comprehensive and timely, the EU strategy on health and safety at work does not address mental health issues.

This is a serious omission, as mental health is an important factor in job attendance, performance and output. Depression, a leading cause of lost work productivity, as a result of sick leave and early retirement, affects 11 % of the EU population in the workplace.

Moreover, recent research by the Economist Intelligence Unit covering 30 countries has found that people with a mental health problem face considerable employment disadvantages.

What will the Commission do to ensure that the strategy also takes account of the need to ensure and promote mental health in the workplace?