

**Question for written answer E-006362/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Inês Cristina Zuber (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Nursing mothers obliged to prove they are breastfeeding

Two nurses, one at the Hospital de Santo António and the other at the Hospital São João in Porto, have complained that they had to prove that they were breastfeeding their children, and were forced to express milk in the presence of occupational health doctors.

Portuguese law requires women who are breastfeeding to submit a medical certificate every month after children reach one year of age. Before this time, they have the right to a maximum of two hours a day to breastfeed or bottle-feed their children, without the need for any written permission.

Given this affront to the dignity of women, I would like to ask the Commission:

1. Is it aware of any similar practice in other Member States?
2. With regard to nursing mothers in the other 27 Member States, how do they prove that they are breastfeeding and what rights do they enjoy?