

**Question for written answer E-011139/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Exposure to electromagnetic fields

The health risks associated with prolonged exposure to electromagnetic fields have been scientifically proven. The European Parliament has held, with the backing of a STOA study, that, in accordance with the precautionary principle, the competent authorities should focus their action to protect the public against the risks arising from exposure.

Directive 2004/40/EU reflected the position of most researchers who have studied the problem. Directive 2013/35/EU on minimum health and safety requirements for workers is a more toothless instrument, is difficult to read and does not tackle the long-term impact of exposure, that being regarded as theoretical.

As public health is a fundamental right recognised by the Treaties establishing the European Union, and as all workers have the right to know the exact conditions in which they are working, in order to be able to exercise their right to choose, can the Commission indicate:

- how it intends to encourage Member States to produce scientific studies of the causal relationships between exposure to electromagnetic fields and long-term effects?
- whether it considers it desirable to review the values in Directive 2004/40/EU in order to bring them more into line with the precautionary principle, or at least draw up guidelines to clarify the new directive?