

**Question for written answer E-011540/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE)**

Subject: Incentives for the regularisation of informal caregivers and domestic workers

Domestic workers represent a significant share of the labour force worldwide and in Europe. Relevant figures, in particular, relate to care workers for the elderly, as a direct consequence of the increasing numbers of aged people across Europe.

In 2011 the ILO adopted the Domestic Workers Convention and its supplementary recommendation, introducing international labour standards dedicated to this group of workers and setting out a framework of measures and principles which can guide action to strengthen national laws.

This is of fundamental importance, both for ensuring the promotion and protection of domestic workers' rights and for guaranteeing the regularisation of these forms of work. Across the EU, domestic work is regulated either through specific legislation, collective bargaining or a mix of both, or, alternatively, it may simply be covered by general labour law.

Nevertheless, numerous gaps in protection remain, and there is a large shadow market in Europe: in fact, it is difficult to obtain any reliable data, particularly owing to the often informal character of the data available, since neither employers nor employees feel it convenient to formalize it.

Can EU policies introduce tailored incentives to make it preferable for domestic workers be regularised and for employers to regularise?