

**Question for written answer E-002104/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Police force rights

According to a 2014 survey conducted by the European Confederation of Police, EU police forces are observing very specific work-related illnesses amongst their officers as a result of their work environment and exposure to physically and mentally extreme situations. Examples of such diseases include depression, burnouts, cardiovascular diseases, posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and stress. Whereas exposure to extreme situations is considered 'part of the job', the challenges that Europe is facing, whether due to terrorist threats or migration flows, mean that officers are being asked to do more with less resources. Furthermore, Article 2 of the Safety and Health of Workers Directive 89/391/EEC provides that certain public service activities, including policing, can be interpreted as being exempt from the requirements of the directive. Also, the working conditions and rights of police officers are varied and imbalanced across the EU.

In the light of this, the Commission is asked to answer the following:

1. Is it ready to act in the direction of presenting a sector-specific legislative initiative on the working conditions and social rights of police officers?
2. If not, what possible avenues could be envisaged to quickly ensure similar rights for police forces across the EU, along with necessary and appropriate working conditions, including equipment and training?