

**Question for written answer E-006438/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Agnieszka Kozłowska-Rajewicz (PPE), Danuta Jazłowiecka (PPE) and Marek Plura (PPE)**

Subject: Infringement of the principles of equal and dignified treatment of seasonal workers

In view of the ageing population and low birth rates in the European Union, immigration from third countries can contribute to substantial economic development. Therefore, Directive 2014/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council was issued.

The Directive provides that seasonal workers are entitled to equal treatment with nationals of the host country with regard to terms and conditions of employment, including working conditions, health and safety requirements. The principle of equal treatment also applies to the occupational security and training, as well as seasonal employment advisory services offered by labour offices and other public services.

However, there are often cases in which seasonal workers employed by dishonest temporary employment agencies or directly by employers are forced to live in conditions that actually endanger their health. It is often the case that fraudulent temporary employment agencies earn extra money on insurance, i.e. they deduct a premium higher than the employee pays to the insurance company. Employees also have to pay penalties on their wages or have the number of hours they worked cut.

In this connection:

1. Is the Commission aware of and monitoring the issue?
2. What action is the Commission taking to protect seasonal workers from non-compliance with the principles of equal and dignified treatment?
3. What tools does the Commission have at its disposal to limit this phenomenon and ensure that seasonal workers enjoy fair working conditions?