

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3132/09
by Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Different understanding of the concept of equality

How can the Commission explain the difference between the legal system providing protection against old age (Directive 79/7/EEC¹, Article 3.1(a)), which allows Member States discretion in determining pensionable age and the advantages granted to persons who have brought up children (Article 7.1 (a) and 7.1(b)), and the occupational schemes which provide protection against old age in accordance with Directive 86/378/EEC², (Article 4(a)), which provides that provisions fixing different retirement ages (Article 6.1(f)) or rules applicable only to workers of a specified sex (Article 6.1(i)) are contrary to the principle of equal treatment?

¹ OJ L 6, 10.1.1979, p. 24.

² OJ L 225, 12.8.1986, p. 40.