

**Question for written answer E-008995/2012
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Mathieu Grosch (PPE)

Subject: Age restriction on volunteering

The European Union is committed to promoting voluntary work and 2012 is also the 'European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations'. Given the combination of these two aspects and the fact that discrimination on grounds of age is prohibited, it seems problematic that within the EU there are voluntary organisations which place an age limit on volunteers.

1. Are such age limits compatible with European legislation?
2. The aim of the European Year for Active Ageing is to help create a culture of active ageing. Are upper age limits on voluntary work not contrary to this aim?
3. What does the Commission intend to do to prevent age discrimination in volunteering?