

**Question for written answer E-000378/2013
to the Council**
Rule 117
Vilija Blinkevičiūtė (S&D)

Subject: Anti-discrimination Directive and the future of negotiations

Although the European Union formally ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on 23 December 2010, some European Union Member States are still opposed to the Council Directive on implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation (COM (2008)0426) (Anti-discrimination Directive) and still cannot come to a mutual agreement.

1. What specific actions does Ireland, which holds the Council Presidency in the first half of 2013, plan to take as regards the adoption of this Directive?
2. How does the Council plan to continue negotiations with the Member States so that the negotiations produce concrete results in this area?