

**Question for written answer E-003491/2013**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**Astrid Lulling (PPE)**

Subject: Application of Directive 2010/41/EU

Directive 2010/41/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 July 2010 on the application of the principle of equal treatment between men and women engaged in an activity in a self-employed capacity and repealing Council Directive 86/613/EEC stipulates, in Article 16 on implementation, that the Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive by 5 August 2012 at the latest.

1. Which Member States have already communicated to the Commission the text of the main provisions of national law which they have adopted in the field covered by Directive 2010/41/EU?

Article 7 lays down that where a system for social protection for self-employed workers exists in a Member State, that Member State shall take the necessary measures to ensure that spouses and life partners referred to in Article 2(b) can benefit from a social protection in accordance with national law.

Article 8 on maternity benefits refers to the right, in accordance with national law, to be granted a sufficient maternity allowance enabling interruptions in their occupational activity owing to pregnancy or motherhood for at least 14 weeks, and access to existing services supplying temporary replacements and existing national social services. The Member States may provide that access to those services is an alternative to the allowance referred to in Article 8(1).

2. Which Member States have justified particular difficulties to obtain an additional period of two years until 5 August 2014 in order to comply with Articles 7 and 8 as regards female spouses and life partners who habitually, under the conditions laid down by national law, participate in the activities of the self-employed worker and perform the same tasks or ancillary tasks (Article 2(b))?