

**Question for written answer E-005072/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Grace O'Sullivan (Verts/ALE), **Ciarán Cuffe** (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Protection against discrimination on the basis of age

In 2008 the Commission proposed a horizontal anti-discrimination directive (COM(2008)0426) to protect against discrimination on the basis of age, among other grounds. Despite this proposal and the protections outlined in both the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and the EU Treaties, EU citizens continue to suffer discrimination based on age when accessing goods and services.

In response to previous written questions, the Commission has cited the requirement for unanimity in the Council and the lack of progress among Member States as the reason for the delay in moving this file forward. The Commission has also referred to continuing efforts on its part to progress the proposal.

1. What specific actions have been taken/are currently being taken by the Commission to unblock the negotiations in the Council and to encourage Member States to make progress?
2. Given that there has been a 13 year impasse, when will the Commission consider exploring alternatives?
3. In the event that the current impasse continues, what alternatives is the Commission exploring to ensure that the absence of EU anti-discrimination law is remedied?